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## THE PASSING CROWD.

"The Passing Crowd" is a phrase coined in the spirit of indifference. Yet, to a man of what Plato calls "universal sympathies," and even to the plain ordinary denizens of this world, what can be more interesting than "the passing crowd?" Does not this tide of human beings, which we daily see passing along the ways of this world, consist of persons animated by the same spark of the divine essence, and partaking of the same high destinies with ourselves? Let us stand still but for a moment in the midst of this busy, and seemingly careless scene, and consider what they are or may be whom we see around us. In the hurry of the passing show, and of our own sensations, we see but a series of unknown faces; but this is no reason why we should regard them with indifference. Many of these persons, if we knew their histories, would rivet our admiration by the ability, worth, benevolence, or piety, which they have displayed in their various paths through life. Many would excite our warmest interest by their sufferings—sufferings, perhaps, borne meekly and well, and more for the sake of others than themselves. How many tales of human weal and woe, of glory and of humiliation, could be told by those beings, whom, in passing, we regard not! Unvalued as they are by us, how many as good as ourselves repose upon them the affections of bounteous hearts, and would not want them for any earthly compensation! Every one of these persons, in all probability, retains in his bosom the cherished recollections of early happy days, spent in some scene which "they ne'er forget, though there they are forgot," with friends and fellows who, though now far removed in distance and in fortune, are never to be given up by the heart. Every one of these individuals, in all probability, nurses still deeper in the recesses of feeling, the remembrance of that chapter of romance in the life of every man, an early earnest attachment, conceived in the fervour of youth, unstained by the slightest thought of self, and for a time purifying and elevating the character far above its ordinary standard. Beneath all this gloss of the world—this cold conventional aspect, which all more or less present, and which the business of life renders necessary—there resides for certain a fountain of goodness, pure in its inner depths as the lymph rock-distilled, and ready on every proper occasion to well out in the exercise of the noblest duties. Though all may seem but a hunt after worldly objects, the great majority of these individuals can, at the proper time, cast aside all earthly thoughts, and communicate directly with the Being whom their fathers have taught them to worship, and whose will and attributes have been taught to man immediately by Himself. Perhaps many of these persons are of loftier aspect than ourselves, and belong to a sphere removed above our own. But, nevertheless, if the barrier of mere wordly form were taken out of the way, it is probable that we could interchange sympathies with these persons as freely and cordially as with any of our own class. Perhaps they are of an inferior order; but they are only inferior in certain circumstances, which should never interpose to prevent the flow of feeling for our kind. The great common features of human nature remain; and let us never forget how much respect is due to the very impress of humanity—the type of the divine nature itself! Even where our fellow creatures are degraded by vice and poverty, let us still be gentle in our judging. The various fortunes which we every day see befalling the members of a single family, after they part off in their several paths through life, teach us, that it is not to every one that success in the career

of existence is destined. Besides, do not the arrangements of society at once necessitate the subjection of an immense multitude, to humble toil, and give rise to temptations, before which the weak and un instructed can scarcely escape falling? But even beneath the soiled face of the poor artizans there may be aspirations after some vague excellence, which hard fate has denied him the means of attaining, though the very wish to obtain it is itself ennobling. The very mendicant was not always so; he, too, has had his undegraded and happier days, upon the recollection of which, some remnant of better feeling may still repose.

These, I humbly think, are reasons why we should not look with coldness upon any masses of men with whom it may be our lot to mingle. It is the nature of a good man to conclude that others are like himself; and if we take the crowd promiscuously, we can never be far wrong in thinking that there are worthy and well-directed feelings in it as well as in our own bosoms.

## TAM O' THE COWGATE.

This ludicrous name was conferred by King James the Sixth, of facetious memory, upon one of the most sagacious and respectable of his counsellors, the first Earl of Haddington, who happened to reside in that dingy, and now much despised, street, the Cowgate of Edinburgh. Thomas Hamilton, who raised himself by his talents from the Scottish bar to the peerage, and became the founder of a great family, was, perhaps, the most remarkable public man of his age, next to Napier of Merchiston, and possibly one or two others; yet he is hardly known to the present generation. We happen to be able to remedy this defect to a very surprising degree; for circumstances have put us in possession of a number of traditional and historical anecdotes respecting him, such as may bring him almost alive before the mind of a modern reader, in full connection with all contemporary circumstances. We may, indeed be permitted to remark, that rarely can such a minute and faithfully drawn picture, as that which follows, be presented two hundred years after the subject of it is in his grave.

THOMAS HAMILTON, otherwise called TAM O' THE COWGATE, is represented, in Douglas's Peerage, as the son of Hamilton of Priestfield, a branch of the house of Innerwick, which, in its turn, was a cadet of the noble house of Hamilton. Scot of Scotstarvit tells us, in his "Staggering State of Scots Statesmen," a very acrimonious and curious memoir, that his grandfather was merchant in the West Bow of Edinburgh. If such was the case, it only renders the elevation of him of the Cowgate a little more honourable. The mother of our hero was Elizabeth Heriot, of the family of Trabrown, probably a relation of Agnes Heriot, of Trabrown, the mother of George Buchanan. He was born in the year 1563, received his university and legal education in France, and commenced practice in Edinburgh, as an advocate, in 1587. His talents very soon attracted attention. In 1592, he was raised to the bench, under the title of Lord Drumcairn. In 1595, he secured the office of King's Advocate; and next year he was found in the list of eight persons, to whom King James committed the charge of all the state patronage and finances, and who, from their number, were called Octavians. After the departure of James from Scotland, in 1603, Tam o' the Cowgate was one of the Commissioners appointed on the part of Scotland to manage the proposed union with England; a scheme, however, which was not destined to be crowned with success for another century.

As he now enjoyed some very lucrative offices, and was singularly moderate in his expenses, he soon waxed rich. There was at this time a great deal of church land under a very uncertain sort of proprietary, being only enjoyed by persons who had received grants of it from the Protestant Regents in the minority of King James, and liable, it was generally thought, to be revoked, and again applied to ecclesiastical purposes, whenever the crown should be strong enough to carry such a measure into effect. This land came into the market occasionally in large lots, and was sold at

prices proportioned to the likelihood of its revocation. King James, after his translation to England, and subsequently, King Charles, were perpetually threatening to restore the church to its former wealthy condition: the proprietors were, of course, in a state of great alarm during nearly the whole of these reigns. But Tam o' the Cowgate, who was himself a sturdy Presbyterian, appears to have had the shrewdness to see that the sovereign would never be able to effect a purpose so contrary to the genius of the nation; and, accordingly, he bought the lands with as much confidence as the sellers disposed of them with fear. He began his purchases in 1597, and in the course of about thirty years had acquired about twenty large estates, besides all the vast territories and jurisdictions which had once belonged to the Knights of St. John, the successors of the Templars. On some of these estates he wrought gold and silver mines. This is not believed to have ever been a very profitable business in Scotland, though certainly the country is not deficient in these precious metals. Tam, however, was one of those persons who can make silk purses out of sow's ears. Having worked a silver mine in Linlithgowshire into something like a good character, he sold it to King James for five thousand pounds; and it is said that the poor monarch never made five shillings more by the concern, the vein being in reality exhausted.

As he increased in wealth, he increased in dignity, and was promoted in office. In 1612, he was appointed Lord Clerk Register, and Secretary of State, two excellent offices, though the salary attached to the latter was only one hundred pounds. In the following year he was raised to the peerage, under the title of Lord Binning and Byres, and in 1616 he succeeded Lord Preston as President of the Court of Session, a seat which it was not then illegal for a peer to hold, though so declared to be in the subsequent reign. "For many years," says Mr. Tytler, in his *Life of Sir Thomas Craig*, "he [Lord Binning] conjoined, with apparent ease to himself, and acknowledged advantage to the country, the occupations of these high offices. Nor was this all; he was a friend and patron of learned men; he was deeply read, not only in civil law, but in matters of state policy, and in general history. To those who, ignorant of its proper distribution, complain of the want of time, it may form a useful lesson to regard the multitudinous labours of this remarkable man. According to our modern notions of intellectual labour, the various notes and observations collected by him in the course of his studies, and the marginal references yet seen upon his books, would rather appear the relics of a life wholly devoted to literary labour, than the fruits of those scattered hours which must have been stolen from the duties of the bench, the severer labours of the council-board, or the pleasures and intrigues of a court." As a judge, he was chiefly remarkable for his shrewdness. "In an action for the improbation of a writ," says Forbes, in his *Journal of the Court of Session*, "which the Lords were convinced was forged, but puzzled for want of clear proof, the Lord Binning, taking up the writ in his hand, and holding it betwixt him and the light, discovered the forgery by the stamp of the paper, the first paper of such a stamp being posterior to the date of the writ quarrelled." On another occasion, a Highland witness had come to give evidence for his chief. The feudal ideas of clanship are well known, even in the present day, to be, on some occasions, opposed to the fair expiation of the truth; and, if so now, it was still more the case in the time of Tam o' the Cowgate. Terror, however, and the questions of the President, had overpowered in Donald the love of the clan, and he had been compelled to tell the tale as it happened. On coming out of Court he met a clansman who had arrived on the same errand, and was going in to be examined. "Well, Donald," said he, "how did you come on?" "God knows!" replied his bewildered friend, "my wife are not just settled yet. But I am afraid I have told the truth." "Indeed! how could you do such a thing?" "Oh! to be sure, I began, and was going to tell my own way, when an awful man that sits in the middle, broke in upon me with such a multitude of interrogatories, as they call them, that he quite dumfounded me, and then I lay at his mercy, and he whirled the truth out of me as easy as ye would wind the strand off a pinn. He's a tall man, with a velvet cap on, and an eye in his head as quick and bright as a partridge."

If ye would tell a good tale of the chief, beware of him."\* In 1619, "Tam" was created Earl of Melrose, being then in possession of the lands of that abbey. About eight years after, he procured this title to be changed for that of Haddington, on the plea that it was more honourable to have his *style* from a town than from a "kirk-living." But his descendant, the present Earl, has recently regained the interesting title of Melrose, on being raised to the British peerage, which is the last, and not the least deserved honour of the family.

When Myles wrote his account of Melrose, about 1750, he found a tradition, that the first Earl was a somewhat severe landlord, and had thereby provoked the satire of Mr. Thomas Forrester, the eccentric and poetical minister of that parish. It is not supposed, however, that there was any *farther* reason for such an unfavourable report, than that the Earl was a good lawyer, and as such probably seemed strict in his claims upon his vassals and serfs. Though he was perhaps anxious to turn everything to the best account, and certainly must have been possessed of great talents for money-making, since he became the richest man of his time in Scotland, he is not remembered as having been what is called *miserly*—a disposition as seldom connected with a degree of ambition like his, as is want of foliage the characteristic of tall trees. On the contrary, to judge by the traditions of his family, he possessed a vivacity of temper not generally enduring of the slow pace of avarice. The old lord was one evening, after a day's hard labour in the public service, sofaicing himself, with a friend, over a flask of wine, in his house in the Cowgate—attired for his better ease in a night-gown, cap, and slippers—when he was suddenly disturbed by a great hubbub, which arose under his window in the open street. This soon turned out to be a *hicker* between the High School youths and those of the College; and it also appeared that the latter, fully victorious, were notwithstanding a valiant defence, in the act of driving their antagonists before them. The Earl of Haddington's sympathies were instantly and warmly awakened in favour of the retiring party, for he had been brought up at the High School, and going from thence to complete his education at Paris, had no similar reason to affect the College. He therefore sprang up, dashed into the street, sided with and rallied the fugitives, and took a most animated share in the combat that ensued, so that, finally, the High School youths, acquiring fresh strength and valour at seeing themselves befriended by the prime judge and privy-councillor of their country (though only in his night-gown and slippers), succeeded in turning the scale of victory upon the College youths, in spite of their superior individual ages and strength. The Earl, who assumed the command of the party, and did not hesitate to excite their spirits by word as well as action, was not content till he had pursued the Collegioners through the Grass-market, and out at the West Port, the gate of which he locked against their return, thus compelling them to spend the whole night in the suburbs and fields. He then returned home in triumph to his castle of comfort in the Cowgate, and resumed, where he had left off, the enjoyment of his friend and flask. We can easily imagine what a rare jest this must have been for "King Jamie."

When this monarch visited Scotland in 1617, he found the old statesman very rich, and was informed that the people believed him to be in possession of the Philosopher's Stone; there being no other feasible mode of accounting for his immense wealth, which rather seemed the effect of supernatural agency than of worldly prudence or talent. King James, quite tickled with the idea of the Philosopher's Stone, and of so enviable a talisman having fallen into the hands of a Scottish Judge, was not long in letting his friend and gossip know of the story which he had heard respecting him. Whether the Lord President was offended at the imputation has not been recorded; but it is probable that he took it in good part, as he immediately invited the King, and the rest of the company present, to come to his house in the Cowgate next day, when he would do his best to give them a good dinner, and lay open to them the whole mystery of the Philosopher's Stone. This agreeable invitation was of course accepted; and the next day accordingly saw his castle thronged with the gay and gorgeous figures of England's King and courtiers, all of whom the President feasted to their heart's content. After dinner the King reminded him of his Philosopher's Stone, and expressed the utmost anxiety to be speedily made acquainted with so rare a treasure, when the pawky lord addressed his Majesty and the company in a short speech, concluding with this information, that his whole secret lay in two simple and familiar maxims,—"Never put off till to-morrow what can be done to-day,—nor ever trust to another's hand what your own can execute." He might have added, from the works of an illustrious contemporary,

This only is the witchcraft I have used.

The guests, who expected to find the Earl's talisman of a more tangible character, were perhaps disappointed that the whole matter turned out to be, like the subject of Hamlet's reading, mere "words"; but the King, who could appreciate a good saying, took up the affair more blithely, and complimented his host upon the means he had employed in the construction of his fortune—adding that these admirable apophthegms should henceforth be proverbial, under the appellation of "TAM O' THE COWGATE'S PHILOSOPHER'S STONE." The King appears to have been obeyed in this by his Scottish subjects with more readiness than he found in certain other of the edicts which he issued upon the occasion of his visit to Scotland; for, long after the Episcopal forms of worship which he then engratified upon Presbytery, had passed away

\* The story is thus told in a somewhat amplified manner by Mr. Fyffe, from the original anecdote in *Forbes's Journal*.

\* The Earl rented, from Macgill of Rankillor, that fine old house, or rather palace, which latterly went under the name of Merchants' Court, and has recently been removed to make way for one of the new bridges giving access to the Old Town.

and been forgotten, *Tam o' the Cowgate's Philosopher's Stone* was remembered with satisfaction, and it has even been used as an adage within the recollection of aged persons still alive. It was perhaps in allusion partly to the above anecdote, that Arthur Johnston, a contemporary Latin poet, thus complimented the sage of the Cowgate.—

Plus nulli Fortuna dedit de gente Britannia,  
Fortunam nemo tam reverenter habet.

Born in a comparatively humble station, entering the world without wealth or patronage, running rapidly up the scale of affluence and preferment, preserving himself in troublous times free of enemies, and at last attaining in some measure the very *Herculis Columna* of every species of greatness,—he might truly be said, by settling the long-disputed question of the triumph of talent over circumstances, to have convinced the world that skill, and skill only, leads to fortune.\*

A striking and most ludicrous idea may be obtained from the following anecdote, of the estimation in which the wisdom of the Earl of Haddington was held by the King, and at the same time, perhaps, of that singular monarch's usual mode of speech. It must be understood, by way of prefatory illustration, that King James, who was the author of the Earl's popular appellation—"Tam o' the Cowgate," had a custom of bestowing such ridiculous *sobriquets* on his principal councillors and courtiers. Thus he conferred upon that grave and sagacious statesman, John, Earl of Marr, the nickname *Jock o' the Sklates*—probably in allusion to some circumstance which occurred in their young days, when they were the fellow-pupils of Buchanan. On hearing of an alliance between the Haddington and the Marr families, his Majesty exclaimed, betwixt jest and earnest, "The Lord haud a grapp o' me! if I tam o' the Cowgate's son marry Jock o' the Sklates' daughter, what will come o' me?" The good-natured monarch probably apprehended, that so close a union betwixt two of his most subtle statesmen might make them too much for their master,—as hounds are most dangerous when they hunt in couples.

The Earl of Haddington died in 1637, full of years and honours. At Tynningham,† the seat of his descendant, the present Earl, there are two portraits of his Lordship, one a half length, the other a head. Both have the same costume, namely, the gown of the keeper of the Privy Seal, of black satin, twisted with gold, a ruff, &c. The face represents a man of sixty-four and upwards, with a very short crop of hair, which, originally light-coloured or reddish, has become grey through age. His features are thin and sharp, expressive of peculiar acuteness; the forehead narrow, tall, and wrinkled; while the dark hazel hue of his "partidge-eye" quite justifies the Highlander's expression. At Tynningham is also preserved his state dress; and it is a circumstance too characteristic to be overlooked, that in the crimson velvet breeches there are no fewer than nine pockets! Among many of the Earl's papers which remain in Tynningham House, one contains a memorandum, conveying a curious idea of the way in which public and political affairs were then managed in Scotland. The paper contains the heads of a petition in his own handwriting to the Privy Council; and at the end is a note "to gar the Chancellor," do something else in his behalf.

The cynical Scotstarvit, who could find throughout the continued sunshine of the Earl's prosperity, scarcely a single shade whereon to exercise his malicious pencil, records with his usual satisfaction, that, if his lordship was fortunate till the day of his death, at least his children were involved in disasters and poverty. This seems to have been fully as much, however, the result of accident and the troubles of the civil war, as of any degeneracy in point of personal talent or virtue. The second Earl (Thomas) joined the Covenanters, and was made colonel of one of their regiments. In 1640, when stationed at Dunglass Castle, in East-Lothian, in order to watch the motions of the garrison of Berwick, he met his death in the following singular manner. His lordship had for his page an English boy, named Edward Paris, whom, before he had the misfortune to exasperate one day, by telling him jestingly before company, that his countrymen were a pack of cowards, for having suffered themselves to be beaten, and run away, at Newburn. The boy resolved upon revenging this insult in the most decisive manner, and that not only upon the author of it, but also upon those who had witnessed and partaken in it. Sir James Balfour says, that Paris was intrusted with the key of the powder vault, and that Lord Haddington reposed so much confidence in the youth, that he considered no other individual of his company so worthy of this important charge. He paid dearly for his jest, and for this misplaced confidence. On Sunday, the 30th of August at noon, as the Earl and many of his officers and vassals were standing in the court-yard of the castle, the page went down to the vault, and, with the utmost deliberation, thrust a hot iron into one of the powder barrels, which instantly exploding, blew the principal building of the castle into the air, with all the people in it, and threw down the side-walls of the court upon the unfortunate Earl and his attendants. Lord Haddington, with his brother and other kinsmen, all the tenants, it is said, of the estate of Tynningham, about thirty gentlemen, a great number of soldiers, and not fewer than fifty-four male and female servants, perished in this dreadful calamity, together with the wretched page himself, of whose body no part was ever found, except an arm, the hand of which still grasped the iron spoon with which it had kindled the barrel!

While the surviving children of Tam o' the Cowgate

\* Robert Johnston, the author of a Latin History of Scotland, still in manuscript, (*Advocates' Library*), testifies to the property of the Earl's mode of acquiring wealth, by saying,—"In foro summum auctoritatis et eloquentiae gradum obtinuit, et multa fructuosa procedit, sine infuria cuiusquam, possedit."

† The old Earl had a watch-tower at the top of his house, where he used to sit whole days (when not better employed,) making observations of the proceedings of his labourers and work-people out of doors.

shared in the misfortunes of the time, or dilapidated their patrimonies by what Sir John Scott calls their riotous style of living, the line of the family was carried on by a series of luckless representatives, in whose hands the immense estates acquired by their sagacious ancestor, rapidly disappeared. The eldest son of the second Earl died before he came of age, after having made an imprudent match with a beautiful and accomplished, but profligate French-woman, who in little more than six months of married life, involved his estates in such debts as were not fully paid by his successors in twice as many years.\* Other minorities succeeded, and were attended in those disastrous times with effects the very reverse of those which are now so favourable to infantine heirs. The languishing talent and impaired wealth of the family were, however, at length revived by an alliance with that of the celebrated Chancellor the Duke of Rothes; from which proceeded two successive generations of poets, and other *ignes minores*,† whose spirited characters reflected back credit on the name of their distinguished ancestor. It is needless to remind the reader, that another century has not seen this second flame exhibit symptoms of decay.

To all that has been said respecting the philosopher of the Cowgate, we may add, that, though his land-buying propensities were such and so well known, that every body who wished to reduce their "dirty acres" to the pleasant form of cash, thought of applying to nobody but him, yet he does not seem to have ever felt a desire of living in a house of his own property. What makes the circumstance of his continuing to *rent* the house in the Cowgate the more remarkable, is, that the son of his landlord Macgill was "in a selling way" long before the decease of the Earl of Haddington. We can only account for this seeming inconsistency, by supposing that the Earl had got an exceedingly long and exceedingly cheap lease of the house when he first inhabited it, and found the rent which he paid for it to be less than the interest or yearly value of its purchase money. That the rent was very moderate, is proved by a circumstance still remembered in the family, namely,—that he also rented a tenement on the opposite side of the Cowgate, which he occupied as a coach-house and stables, and the rent of which, though perhaps little enough, caused him to complain, not without some show of reason, that he paid more for his stables than for his house!

#### THE FRENCH VILLAGE.

AN AMERICAN DESCRIPTIVE TALE.

On the borders of the Mississippi may be seen the remains of an old French village, which once boasted a numerous population of as happy and as thoughtless souls, as ever danced to a violin. If content is wealth, as philosophers would fain persuade us, they were opulent; but they would have been reckoned miserably poor by those who estimate worldly riches by the more popular standard. Their houses were scattered in disorder, like the tents of a wandering tribe, along the margin of a deep bayou, and not far from its confluence with the river, between which and the town was a strip of rich alluvion, covered with a gigantic growth of forest trees. Beyond the bayou was a swamp, which, during the summer heats, was nearly dry, but in the rainy season presented a vast lake of several miles in extent. The whole of this morass was thickly set with cypress, whose interwoven branches and close foliage, excluded the sun, and rendered this as gloomy a spot as the most melancholy poet ever dreamt of. And yet it was not tenantless, and there were seasons, when its dark recesses were enlivened by notes peculiar to itself. Here the young Indian, not yet entrusted to yield the tomahawk, might be seen paddling his light canoe among the tall weeds, darting his arrows at the paroquets, that chattered among the boughs, and screaming and laughing with delight, as he stripped their gaudy plumage. Here myriads of mosquitoes filled the air with an incessant hum; and thousands of frogs attuned their voices in harmonious concert, as if endeavouring to rival the sprightly fiddles of their neighbours; and the owl, peeping out from the hollow of a blasted tree, screeched forth his wailing note, as if moved by the terrific energy of grief. From this gloomy spot, clouds of miasma rolled over the village, spreading volumes of bile and fever abroad upon the land; and sometimes countless multitudes of mosquitoes, issuing from the humid desert, assailed the devoted village with inconceivable fury, threatening to draw from its inhabitants every drop of French blood which yet circulated in their veins. But these evils by no means dismayed, or even interrupted the gaiety of this happy people. When the mosquitoes came, the monsieurs lighted their pipes, and kept up, not only a brisk fire, but a dense smoke, against the assailants; and when the fever threatened, the priest, who was also the doctor, flourished his lancet—the fiddler flourished his bow,

\* This lady, (Henrietta de Coligny, great grand-daughter of the celebrated Admiral Coligny,) afterwards married a Huguenot Count, from whom she speedily got herself separated; and, as she turned Catholic immediately after, Christina, Queen of Sweden, took occasion to say, that her apostacy was owing to her hatred to her husband, for she had desired never again to meet him either in this world or the next.

† One of these was a *lumen magnum*, the late Lord Halles, whose mother was the sister of the amiable, witty, and unorthodox Lord Binning.

—and the happy villagers flourished their heels, and sang, and laughed, and fairly cheated death, disease, and the doctor, of patient and of prey.

Beyond the town, on the other side, was an extensive prairie—a vast unbroken plain of rich green, embellished with numerous flowers of every tint, and whose beautiful surface presented no other variety than here and there a huge mound—the venerable monument of departed ages, or a solitary tree of stunted growth, shattered by the blast, and pining alone in the gay desert. The prospect was bounded by a range of tall bluffs, which overlooked the prairie, covered at some points with groves of timber, and at others exhibiting their naked sides, or high, bold peaks, to the eye of the beholder. Herds of deer might be seen here at sunrise, stily retiring to their coverts, after rioting away the night on the rich pasture. Here the lowing kine lived, if not in clover, at least in something equally nutritious; and here might be seen immense droves of French ponies, roaming untamed, the common stock of the village, ready to be reduced to servitude, by any lady or gentleman who chose to take the trouble.

With their Indian neighbours, the inhabitants had maintained a cordial intercourse, which had never yet been interrupted by a single act of aggression on either side. It is worthy of remark, that the French have invariably been more successful in securing the confidence and affection of the Indian tribes, than any other nation. Others have had leagues with them, which, for a time, have been faithfully observed; but the French alone have won them to the familiar intercourse of social life, lived with them in the mutual interchange of kindness, and, by treating them as friends and equals, gained their entire confidence. This result, which has been attributed to the sagacious policy of their government, is perhaps more owing to the conciliatory manners of that amiable people, and the absence among them, of that insatiable avarice, that boundless ambition, that reckless prodigality of human life, that unprincipled disregard of public and solemn leagues, which, in the conquests of the British and the Spaniards, have marked their foot-steps with misery, and blood, and desolation.

This little colony was composed partly of emigrants from France, and partly of natives—not Indians, but *bona fide* French, born in America, but preserving their language, their manners, and their agility in dancing, although several generations had passed away since their first settlement. Here they lived perfectly happy; and well they might; for they enjoyed, to the full extent, those three blessings on which our declaration of independence has laid so much stress,—life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Their lives, it is true, were sometimes threatened by the miasma aforesaid; but this was soon ascertained to be an imaginary danger. For, whether it was owing to their temperance, or their cheerfulness, or their activity, or to their being acclimated, or to the want of attraction between French people and fever, or to all these together, certain it is, that they were blest with a degree of health, only enjoyed by the most favoured nations. As to liberty, the wild Indian scarcely possessed more; for, although the "Grand Monarque" had not more royal subjects in his wide domains, he had never condescended to honour them with a single act of oppression, unless the occasional visits of the commandant could be so called; who sometimes, when levying supplies, called upon the village for its portion, which they always contributed with many protestations of gratitude for the honour conferred on them. And as for happiness, they pursued nothing else. Inverting the usual order, to enjoy life was their daily business, to provide for its wants an occasional labour, sweetened by its brief continuance, and its abundant fruit. They had a large tract of land around the village, which was called the "common field," because it belonged to the community. Most of this was allowed to remain in open pasture; but spots of it were cultivated by any who chose to enclose them; and such enclosure gave a firm title to the individual, so long as the occupancy lasted, but no longer. They were not an agricultural people, farther than the rearing of a few servants for the table made them such; relying chiefly on their large herds, and on the produce of the chase for support. With the Indians they drove an amicable, though not an extensive, trade, for furs and peltry; giving them in exchange, merchandise and trinkets, which they procured from their countrymen at St. Louis. To the latter place, they annually carried their skins, bringing back a fresh supply of goods for barter, together with such articles as their own wants required; not forgetting a large portion of finery for the ladies, a plentiful supply of rosie and catgut for the fiddler, and liberal presents for his reverent the priest.

If this village had no other recommendation, it is endeared to my recollection, as the birth-place and residence of Monsieur Baptiste Menou, who was one of its principal inhabitants when I first visited it. He was a bachelor of forty, a tall, lank, hard featured personage, as straight as a ramrod and almost as thin, with stiff, black hair, sunken cheeks, and a complexion a tinge darker than that of the aborigines. His person was remarkably erect, his countenance grave, his gait deliberate; and when to all this he added an enormous pair of sable whiskers, it will be admitted, that Monsieur Baptiste was no insignificant person. He had many estimable qualities of mind and body, which endeared him to his friends, whose respect was increased by the fact of his having seen a soldier and a traveller. In his youth he had followed the French commandant in two campaigns: and not a comrade in the ranks was better dressed, or cleaner shaved on parade, than Baptiste, who fought, besides, with the characteristic bravery of the nation to which he owed his lineage. He acknowledged, however, that war was not as pleasant a business as is generally supposed. Accustomed to a life totally free from constraint, the discipline of the camp ill accorded with his desultory habits. He complained of being obliged to eat, and drink, and sleep, at the call of the drum. Burnishing a gun, and brushing a coat, and polishing shoes, were duties beneath a gentleman; and, after all, Baptiste

saw but little honour in tracking the wily Indians through endless swamps. Besides, he began to have some scruples as to the propriety of cutting the throats of the respectable gentry whom he had been in the habit of considering as the original and lawful possessors of the soil. He therefore proposed to resign; and was surprised when his commander informed him, that he was enlisted for a term which was not yet expired. He bowed, shrugged his shoulders, and submitted to his fate. He had too much honour to desert, and was too loyal, and too polite, to murmur; but he forthwith made a solemn vow to his patron saint, never again to get into a scrape, from which he could not retreat, whenever it suited his convenience. It was thought that he owed his celibacy, in some measure, to this vow. He had since accompanied the friendly Indians on several hunting expeditions towards the sources of the Mississippi, and had made a trading voyage to New Orleans. Thus accomplished, he had been more than once called upon by the commandant to act as a guide, or an interpreter,—honours which failed not to elicit suitable marks of respect from his fellow villagers; but which had not inflamed the honest heart of Baptiste with any unbecoming pride: on the contrary, there was not a more modest man in the village.

In his habit, he was the most regular of men. He might be seen at any hour of the day, either sauntering through the village, or seated in the front of his own door, smoking a large pipe, formed of a piece of buck-horn, curiously hollowed out, and lined with tin; to which was affixed a short stem of cane from the neighbouring swamp. The pipe was his inseparable companion; and he evinced towards it a constancy which would have immortalized his name, had it been displayed in a better cause. When he walked abroad, it was to stroll leisurely from door to door, chatting familiarly with his neighbours, patting the white-haired children on the head, and continuing his lounge, until he had peregrinated the village.

He had an orphan niece, whom he had reared from childhood to maturity,—a lovely girl, of whose beautiful complexion a poet might say, that its roses were cushioned upon emerald. A sweater flower bloomed not upon the prairie, then Gabrielle Menou. But as she was never afflicted with weak nerves, fever, or consumption, and had but one avowed lover, whom she treated with uniform kindness, and married, with the consent of all parties, she has no claim to be considered as the heroine of this history. That station will be cheerfully awarded by every sensible reader, to the more important personage who will be presently introduced.

Across the street, immediately opposite to Mons. Baptiste, lived Mademoiselle Jeanette Duval, a lady who resembled him in some respects; but, in many others, was his very antipode. Like him, she was cheerful and happy, and single; but, unlike him, she was brisk, and fat, and plump. Monsieur was the very pink of gravity; and Mademoiselle was blessed with a goodly portion thereof,—but her's was specific gravity. Her hair was dark, but her heart was light; and her eyes, though black, were as brilliant a pair of orbs, as ever beamed upon the dreary solitude of a bachelor's heart. Jeanette's heels were as light as her heart, and her tongue as active as her heels; so that, notwithstanding her rotundity, she was as brisk a Frenchwoman as ever frisked through the mazes of a cotillion. To sum her perfections, her complexion was of a darker olive than the genial sun of France confers on her brunettes; and her skin was as smooth and shining as polished mahogany. Her whole household consisted of herself and a female negro servant. A spacious garden, which surrounded her house, a pony, and a herd of cattle, constituted, in addition to her personal charms, all the wealth of this amiable spinster. But with these she was rich, as they supplied her table, without adding much to her cares. Her quadrupeds, according to the example set by their superiors, pursued their own happiness without let or molestation, wherever they could find it—waxing fat or lean, as nature was more or less bountiful in supplying their wants; and when they strayed too far, or when her agricultural labours became too arduous for the feminine strength of herself and her able assistant, every Monsieur of the village was proud of an occasion to serve Mam'selle. And well they might be; for she was the most notable lady in the village, the life of every party, the soul of every frolic. She participated in every festive meeting, and every sad solemnity. Not a neighbour could get up a dance, or get down a dose of bark, without her assistance. If the ball grew dull, Mam'selle pounced on the floor, and infused new spirit into the weary dancers. If the conversation flagged, Jeanette, who occupied a kind of neutral ground between the young and the old, the married and the single, chatted with all, and loosened all tongues. If the girls wished to stroll in the woods, or romp on the prairie, Mam'selle was taken along, to keep off the wolves and the young men; and, in respect to the latter, she faithfully performed her office, by attracting them around her own person. Then, she was the best neighbour, and the kindest soul! She made the richest soup, the clearest coffee, and the neatest pastry in the village; and, in virtue of her confectionery, was the prime favourite of all the children. Her hospitality was not confined to her own domicile; but found its way, in the shape of sundry savoury viands, to every table in the vicinity. In the sick chamber, she was the most assiduous nurse; her step was the lightest, and her voice the most cheerful,—so that the priest must inevitably have become jealous of her skill, had it not been for divers plates of rich soup, and bottles of cordial, with which she conciliated his favour, and purchased absolution for these and other offences.

Baptiste and Jeanette were the best of neighbours. He always rose at the dawn, and after lighting his pipe, sallied forth into the open air, where Jeanette usually made her appearance at the same time; for there was an emulation, of long standing between them, which should be the earliest riser.

"Bon jour! Mam'selle Jeanette," was his daily salutation. "Ah! bon jour! bon jour! Monsieur Menou," was her daily reply.

Then, as he gradually approximated the little palings

which surrounded her door, he hoped Mam'selle was we. this morning, and she reiterated the kind inquiry, but with increased emphasis. Then Monsieur inquired after Mam'selle's pony, and Mam'selle's cow, and her garden, and every thing pertaining to her, real, personal, and mixed; and she displayed a corresponding interest in all concerns of her kind neighbour. These discussions were mutually beneficial. It was thought that he might himself go in. But he denied this; and indeed, before offering to enter the dwelling of Mam'selle on such occasions, he usually solicited permission to light his pipe at Jeanette's sparkling eyes—a compliment at which, although it had been repeated some scores of times, Mam'selle never failed to laugh and curtsey, with great good humour, and good breeding.

It cannot be supposed, that a bachelor of so much discernment could long remain insensible to the galaxy of charms which centred in the person of Mam'selle Jeanette; and accordingly, it was currently reported that a courtship of some ten years' standing had been slyly conducted on his part, and as cunningly eluded on hers. It was not averred that Baptiste had actually gone the fearful length of offering his hand; or that Jeanette had been so imprudent as to discourage, far less reject, a lover of such respectable pretensions. But there was thought to exist a strong hankering on the part of the gentleman, which the lady managed so skilfully, as to keep his mind in a kind of equilibrium, like that of the patient animal between the two bundles of hay—so that he would sometimes halt in the street, midway between the two cottages, and cast furtive glances, first at the one, and then at the other, as if weighing the balance of comfort; while the increased volume of smoke which issued from his mouth seemed to argue that the fire of his love had other fuel than tobacco, and was literally consuming the inward man.

Such was the situation of affairs when I first visited this village, about the time of the cession of Louisiana to the United States. The news of that event had just reached this sequestered spot, and was but indifferently relished. Independently of the national attachment which all men feel, and the French so justly, the inhabitants of this region had reason to prefer to all others the government which had afforded them protection, without constraining their freedom, or subjecting them to any burdens; and with the kindest feelings towards the Americans, they would willingly have dispensed with any nearer connection than that which already existed. They, however, said little on the subject; and that little was expressive of their cheerful acquiescence in the honour done them by the American people in buying the country, which the Emperor had done them the honour to sell.

I remained several weeks at this hospitable village. Few evenings passed without a dance, at which all were assembled, young and old; the mothers vying in agility with their daughters, and the old men setting examples of gallantry to the young. Accompanied their young men to the Indian towns, and was hospitably entertained. I followed them to the chase, and witnessed the fall of many a noble buck. In their light canoes, I glided over the turbid waters of the Mississippi, or through the labyrinths of the morass, in pursuit of water fowl. I visited the mounds where the bones of thousands of warriors were mouldering, overgrown with prairie violets, and thousands of nameless flowers. I saw the moccasin snake basking in the sun, the Elk feeding on the prairie; and returned to mingle in the amusements of a circle, where, if there was not Parisian elegance, there was more than Parisian cordiality.

Several years passed away before I again visited this country. The jurisdiction of the American government was now extended over this immense region, and its beneficial effects were beginning to be widely disseminated. The roads were crowded with the teams and herds, and families of emigrants hastening to the land of promise. Steam-boats navigated every stream, the axe was heard in every forest, and the plough broke the sod whose verdure had covered the prairie for ages.

It was sun set when I reached the margin of the prairie, on which the village is situated. My horse, wearied with a long day's travel, sprung forward with new vigour, when his hoof struck the smooth, firm road which led across the plain. It was a narrow path, winding among the tall grass, now tinged with the mellow hues of autumn. I gazed with delight over the beautiful surface. The mounds and the solitary trees were there, just as I had left them, and they were familiar to my eye as the objects of yesterday. It was eight miles across the prairie, and I had not passed half the distance, when night set in. I strained my eyes to catch a glimpse of the village, but two large mounds and a clump of trees which intervened, defeated my purpose. I thought of Gabrielle, and Jeanette, and Baptiste, and the priest—the fiddles, dances, and French ponies; and fancied every minute an hour, and every foot a mile, which separated me from scenes and persons so deeply impressed on my imagination.

At length I passed the mounds, and beheld the lights twinkling in the village, now about two miles off, like a brilliant constellation in the horizon. The lights seemed very numerous—I thought they moved; and at last discovered, that they were rapidly passing about. "What can be going on in the village?" thought I—then a strain of music met my ear. "They are going to dance," said I, striking my spurs into my jaded nag, "and I shall see all my friends together." But as I drew near, a volume of sounds burst upon me, such as defied all conjecture. Fiddles, flutes, and tambourines, drums, cow-horns, tin trumpets, and kettles, mingled their discordant notes with a strange accompaniment of laughter, shouts, and singing.

This singular concert proceeded from a mob of men and boys, who paraded through the streets preceded by one who blew an immense tin horn, and over and anon they shouted, to which the mob responded. I now recollect to have heard of a custom which prevails among the American French, of serenading at marriages; and I rode towards the crowd, who had halted before a well-known door, to ascertain who were the happy parties, and soon learned that they were Monsieur Baptiste Menou and Mme Jeanette Duval, of whom I have already spoken.

The door of the little cabin, whose hospitable threshold I had so often crossed, now opened, and Baptiste made his appearance—the identical, tall, erect personage with whom I had parted several years before, with the same pipe in his mouth. His visage was as long and as melancholy as ever, except that there was a slight tinge of triumph in its expression, and a bashful casting down of the eye; reminding one of a conqueror proud but modest in his glory. He gazed with an embarrassed air at the serenaders, bowed repeatedly, as if conscious that he was the hero of the night.

I retired to my former quarters, at the house of an old settler—a little, shrivelled, facetious Frenchman, whom I found in his red flannel night-cap, smoking his pipe, and seated, like Jupiter, in the midst of clouds of his own creation, talking of merry doings in the village.

Upon after inquiry, I found that many causes of discontent had combined to embitter the lot of my simple-hearted friends. Their ancient allies, the Indians, had sold their hunting grounds, and their removal deprived the village of its only branch of commerce. Surveyors were busily employed in measuring off the whole country, with the avowed intention on the part of the government, of converting into private property those beautiful regions which had heretofore been free to all who trod the soil, or breathed the air. Portions of it were already thus occupied. Farms and villages were spreading over the country with alarming rapidity, deforming the face of nature, and scaring the elk and the buffalo from their long frequented ranges. Yankees and Kentuckians were pouring in, bringing with them the selfish distinctions and destructive spirit of society. Settlements were planted in the immediate vicinity of the village; and the ancient heritage of the ponies was invaded by the ignoble beasts of the interlopers. Certain pregnant indications of civil degradation were alive in the land. A court had been established with a judge, a clerk, and a sheriff; a court-house and a jail were about to be built: two lawyers had already made a lodgement at the country-seat; and a number of justices of the peace, and constables, were dispersed throughout a small neighbourhood of not more than fifty miles in extent. A brace of physicians had floated in with the stream of population, and several other persons of the same cloth, were seen passing about, brandishing their lancets in the most hostile manner. The French argued very reasonably from all these premises, that a people who brought their own doctors expected to be sick; and that those who commenced operations in a new country, by providing so many engines and officers of justice, must certainly intend to be very wicked and litigious. But when the new comers went the fearful length of enrolling them in the militia; when the sheriff, arrayed in all the terrors of his office, rode into the village, and summaoned them to attend the court as jurors: when they heard the judge enumerate to the grand jury the long list of offences which fell within their cognizance, these good folks shook their heads, and declared that this was no longer a country for them.

From that time the village began to depopulate. Some of its inhabitants followed the footsteps of the Indians, and continue to this day to trade between them and the whites, forming a kind of link between civilized and savage men. A larger portion, headed by the priest, floated down the Mississippi, to seek congenial society among the sugar plantations of their countrymen in the South. They found a pleasant spot on the margin of a large bayou, whose placid stream was enlivened by droves of alligators, sporting their innocent gambols on its surface. Swamps, extending in every direction, protected them from farther intrusion. Here a new village arose, and a young generation of French was born, as happy and as careless as that which is passing away.

Baptiste alone adhered to the soil of his fathers, and Jeanette, in obedience to her marriage vow, cleaved to Baptiste. He sometimes talked of following his clan, but when the hour came, he could never summon fortitude to pull up his stakes. He had passed so many happy years of single blessedness in his own cabin, and had been so long accustomed to view that of Jeanette with a wistful eye, that they had become necessary to his happiness. Like other idle bachelors, he had had his day dreams, pointing to future enjoyment. He had been for years planning the junction of his domains with those of his fair neighbour; had arranged how the fences were to intersect, the fields to be enlarged, and the whole to be managed by the thrifty economy of his partner. All these plans were now about to be realized; and he wisely concluded, that he could smoke his pipe, and talk to Jeanette, as comfortably here as elsewhere; and as he had not danced for many years, and Jeanette was growing rather too corpulent for that exercise, he reasoned that even the deprivation of the fiddlers and King-salls could be borne. Jeanette loved comfort too; but having, besides, a sharp eye for the main chance, was governed by a deeper policy. By a prudent appropriation of her own savings, and those of her husband, she purchased from the emigrants many of the fairest acres in the village, and thus secured an ample property.

A large log-house has since been erected in the space between the cottages of Baptiste and Jeanette, which form wings to the main building, and are carefully preserved in remembrance of old times. All the neighbouring houses have fallen down; and a few heaps of rubbish, surrounded by corn-fields, shew where they stood. All is changed, except the two proprietors, who live here in ease and plenty, exhibiting, in their old age, the same amiable character, which, in early life, won for them the respect and love of their neighbours, and of each other.

THE following statistical notices of that most unfortunate country, Poland, as drawn up by Dr. B. Zaydler, a Polish writer, and which appeared in a recent Italian Journal, cannot fail to be perused with interest at the present time:

"The kingdom of Poland is divided into the following palatinates,—Masovia, Cracow, Sandomer, Kalisz, Lublin, Plotz, and Augustowa. The population, according to the last census in 1829, was, (exclusive of the army,) 4,068,290, which may be thus classed:—

By their several races:

The real Poles,	3,000,000
Russians, or Rosniacks, from the eastern parts of ancient Poland,	100,000
Lithuanians,	200,000
Germans,	300,000
Jews	400,000

3,600,000

By their religion:

Roman Catholics,	3,400,000
Greek Church,	100,000
Lutherans,	150,000
Calvinists,	5,000
Jews,	400,000
Other sects	5,000

4,000,000

The population of the towns is to that of the country as one to five.

Employed in agriculture, there are householders,

Their families and servants,	1,871,250
Manufacturers,	2,231,188
Their families,	140,377
Tradesmen,	359,035
Their families,	49,888
Landed Proprietors,	131,331
Copholders,	4,205
Freeholders in towns,	1,886
Persons employed under Government,	41,654
Patients in 592 public hospitals,	8,414
Prisoners in the 76 prisons,	5,376
	7,926

"The proportion between the nobles and the plebeians, is as one to thirteen. According to a verification made by a census in 1824, there were in the kingdom 12 princes, 74 counts, and 20 barons, besides the inferior or untitled nobility.

"The City of Warsaw reckoned in 1815, only 80,000 inhabitants; it now amounts to 140,000, besides the garrison. The provincial towns are Lublin, having 13,400; Kalisz, 12,100; Plotz, 9,200, &c. The population of the kingdom has been increasing since 1815, at the rate of 100,000 individuals every year. It appears, from Dr. Rodecki's statistical tables, published at Warsaw in 1830, that there are Jews in almost every town in the kingdom of Poland; that in 14 of these, their number is equal to that of the Christians, while in 114 it is greater; in three the inhabitants are either all Jews, or almost entirely so. In Warsaw alone, they muster 30,000. Their number is *fast* increasing. They monopolize almost all trade, to the exclusion of the Christian population. The government has endeavoured to check this evil, but with little success; and with this view, Professor Chiarini has been employed in translating the Talmud, and in laying down a plan of reform for this singular people. The Catholic religion, being that of the great majority of the kingdom, is under the *special protection* of the Government, without infringing, however, on the public freedom of other forms of worship, and on the equality of individuals of every communion in the enjoyment of civil rights. The Catholic Hierarchy consists of the Archbishop of Warsaw, primate of the kingdom, and eight bishops, one for each palatinale. There are 1,638 parish churches, 117 auxiliary ones, 6 colleges, 11 seminaries, 151 male convents, and 29 female. In 1819, Pope Pius VII. suppressed, by a bull, 31 male convents, and 13 females. The number of the clergy of the Latin Catholic Church is 2,740. The Greek Catholics have a Bishop at Chełm, 287 parish churches, one seminary, and five male convents. Their priests amount to 354. There are besides six churches of the Russo-Greek communion, under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Minsk, 29 Lutheran and 9 Calvinist churches, having their respective consistories. 2 of the sect of Philippines, 274 synagogues, and 2 Mahomedan mosques, with their imams."

The university of Warsaw was founded in 1816, in lieu of that of Cracow, and it consists of five faculties, having 48 professors, and about 750 students. There are, besides, at Warsaw four lyceums, besides other schools, Sunday schools for mechanics, and girls' schools. In the provinces are 11 palatinale schools, and 14 district ones. In all the kingdom there are 1756 professors, or teachers, nearly 30,000 students, and about 11,000 female pupils. In all chief towns of palatinates, there are civil and criminal courts, besides commissioners of the peace in every district. The two courts of appeal and the supreme court assemble at Warsaw. The senate takes cognizance of offences against the state. There are also a court of commerce and a territorial court.

The army consisted, in 1830, of eight regiments of infantry, of the line, besides the guards, four regiments of light infantry, eight regiments of cavalry, besides the yagers of the guard, two brigades of foot artillery, and two dito of horse, a corps of engineers, &c., in all 36,000 men. The arsenal and foundry are at Warsaw. There are two fortresses in the kingdom, Zamost and Modlin. Every individual from 20 to 30 years of age is subject to military service, except in cases of exemption provided by the law. The two new military schools, formed in 1825, near Warsaw, have educated already nearly 7,000 pupils.

In 1827 the national receipt was 71,988,102 florins and the expenditure was 69,016,030 florins; the Polish florin is about 6d. sterling.

There are in the kingdom, especially about Keilce, mines of iron, zinc, coal, and also copper and lead. Of 451 towns

in the kingdom, 353 consist more than half of wooden houses; 83 are entirely of wood, 6 have half their houses made of brick; and nine consist of more brick than wooden houses. Warsaw contains 1,540 brick, and 1,421 wooden houses. Besides the towns—of which 214 are national property, and 237 belong to private families—there are in the kingdom 22,365 villages—5,373 of which are national property, and 16,992 private property. The communications have been extensively improved since 1815. Two fine substantial roads cross the whole kingdom, one from Kalisz to Brzez Litewski, another from Cracow to the Niemen, both passing through Warsaw. Diligences have been established; inns and post houses erected; 523 bridges have been constructed or repaired. Embankments, in great part of stone, have been raised to restrain the waters of the Vistula. The other rivers have been cleansed, and a canal has been cut to join the Narva to the Niemen.

The city of Warsaw has wonderfully improved since the peace. New streets, squares, palaces, gardens, private and public buildings have been constructed either by government or by individuals, assisted, in many instances, by the public treasury. The streets are well lighted, several of them have been Macadamized. The management of prisons has been ameliorated, and convicts are employed in the public works; mendicity is suppressed. A society of beneficence has been formed at Warsaw, as well as a society of the friends of science. A new exchange, a new theatre, the new church of St. Alexander, new barracks, and a monument to Copenhagen, by Thorwaldsen, have been raised.

The exports of the kingdom consist chiefly in corn and cattle, besides honey, wax, timber, wool, hides, and tallow. The imports are wines, tobacco, colonial produce, and articles of luxury and fashion. The manufactures of woollen cloth, linen, carpets, and leather, have thriven since the peace. While in 1815, there were hardly one hundred looms for coarse woollen cloths, there are now above six thousand, which now supply the whole kingdom including the army. More than ten thousand families of foreign workers, chiefly German and Swiss, have emigrated to Poland, where they have built new towns and peopled districts formerly deserted. There are numerous distilleries of spirits, and the brewing trade is very extensive; they brew porter and ale equal to those of England. By the former laws of Poland, commerce was depressed, and no noble, however poor, could, without degradation, resort to it, whilst he often served in a mercenary capacity a richer nobleman.

Agriculture, which is still the principal occupation of the population, suffers under a depression of prices. In 1827, they reaped 4,439,399 *korzees*, (a *korze* is nearly two hundred weight) of rye, 3,183,023 of oats, 1,506,062 of barley, and 751,076 of wheat, besides 4,288,185 *korzees* of potatoes, and hay, flax, hemp, and honey. The cattle are improving both in quantity and quality.

In 1827, there were in the kingdom 694,728 cows, 475,946 oxen, 259,990 calves, 703,207 pigs, about two millions and a half sheep, 192,841 horses, 8,771 stallions, 167,901 mares. About one half the extent of the territory of the kingdom may be reckoned to be cultivated, one fourth of the remainder is occupied by forests, and the rest by marshes and uncultivated lands. Since the establishment of the grand duchy of Warsaw, the peasantry of that part of Poland have been emancipated; they live on the estates of the great landlords, each family having a cabin and thirteen acres of ground, on condition of working for the owner three days in a week. They may remove themselves by giving up their tenements. Several proprietors have adopted the system of free labour and wages."

#### JAMAICA—SLAVES.

JAMAICA is the most considerable, as well as by far the most valuable, of the British West India Islands. It is situated among the group of islands called the Greater Antilles; extends 140 miles in length, by 50 in breadth, at its widest part; has the island of St. Domingo on the east, and from which it is separated by a channel; Cuba on the north; the bay of Honduras on the west; and South America on the south. It lies in 18° 12' of north latitude. The climate is temperate, the medium heat at Kingston, throughout the year, being 80°, and the least 70°, which is much about the same as the hottest summer in Scotland. The air, however, is much colder in the high grounds. The island is crossed longitudinally by an elevated ridge, called the Blue Mountains, and one of the peaks rises to a height of 7431 feet above the level of the sea. Jamaica is one of the most beautiful and fruitful countries in the world, and may be styled the Emerald of the ocean. Though discovered by Columbus in the year 1494, and settled by the Spaniards in 1509, since which period it has been gradually undergoing improvements, especially since it was conquered by the English, in 1655, it still exhibits all the wild luxuriance and natural character of a forest. Its extensive woods of mahogany, and other large trees, cover a vast portion of its territory, and are interspersed with beautiful verdant glades, or savannahs, while the trees and shrubbery spread to the very peaks of the mountains. On the north of the island, at a small distance from the sea, the land rises in small round topped hills, which are covered with spontaneous groves of pimento; under the shade of these is a beautiful and rich turf. This side of the island is also well watered, every valley having its rivulet, many of which tumble from overhanging cliffs into the sea. The background in this prospect, consisting of a vast amphitheatre of forests, melting gradually into the distant blue mountains, is very striking. On the south coast, the face of the country is different; it is more sublime, but not so pleasing. The mountains here approach the sea in immense ridges; but there are even here cultivated spots on the sides of the hills, and in many parts vast savannahs, covered with sugar canes, stretching from the sea to the foot of the mountains. The soil of Jamaica is in many places, deep and

sterile. The rapids from the rapids, channel, the staple export cotton, and the negroes.

Surrey, and into eight parts. In M. the capital of the island are a great number of negro slaves, natives of Barbados, and subsequent intelligent they have been used to some other minds of every thing slavery as principles, the slaves of the part of far among the evidence of living cabin slave among ever, to for the opinion, upon which was derived.

"The house wide; built into five square. The three sides of the pantry, which the pot; at no entered, I in the corner in an crab, and peeling a fish was inhaled as he hollered of the rafter, substantial chairs and a range of hung several tains. They brought in water or oil, and beams, and an oil hook which served. There was like a guineas, com were playing plantain s toco-nut, other fruit from the poults, w Another

"I would my birth, portage led me to thought, the poor peasant like it; and soul. But it is, general disease we treat sick, than under the vents. It is to constitute, to me, these things. I suspect, drainer, a gayer, this king's balsom, or it, w ladies and Slavery S so wages, but they labour in

article. The island has upwards of a hundred rivers, but from the rapidity of their current, and the roughness of their channel, they are navigable only by canoes. Besides the staple exports of Jamaica, consisting of sugar, indigo, coffee, and cotton, the cultivated vegetables are maize, guinea corn, and nutritious vegetables of different kinds, for the food of the negroes. The chief indigenous fruit is the plantain cocoa nut. Jamaica is divided into three counties.—Middlesex, Surrey, and Cornwall. The county of Middlesex is divided into eight parishes; Surrey into seven; and Cornwall into five. In Middlesex is situated St. Iago, or Spanish Town, the capital of the island. Port Town is a considerable town and seaport, situated in Surrey. The other chief towns in the island are Port Antonio, and Montego Bay Town. There are a great number of villages and inferior seaports. The cultivation of the land in Jamaica is carried on by means of negro slaves, male and female, and the greater part of whom are natives of the island, or the immediate descendants of slaves imported from Africa. [An exact account of the number and character of the population will be given in a subsequent traveller.] It has been generally acknowledged, by intelligent travellers, that the slave population of Jamaica have been under a more mild species of treatment than in some other Indian possessions. Indeed, if we could divest our minds of the natural repugnance we feel, with regard to every thing like the slavery of human beings, or look coolly

slavery as it exists, instead of reasoning upon it on abstract principles, we would at once arrive at the conclusion, that the slaves of Jamaica have for some time been in the enjoyment of far greater physical comforts than are to be found among the peasantry of England and Ireland. From the evidence of every writer on the subject, and from the best living testimony, it appears that the cottage of a West Indian slave is beyond measure superior to an Irish or Scottish cabin among the poorer classes. Leaving my readers, however, to form their own judgment on this momentous question, upon which it is unnecessary for me to express an opinion, I may, for their amusement, present the following short description of a slave's hut in Jamaica, as afforded by a recent traveller:—

"The house is about forty feet long, and almost eighteen wide; built of boards, and covered with fan palms; divided into five apartments, of which the principal is eighteen feet square. This is the hall; the other apartments lead from it; three serving for sleeping rooms, and the fourth for a sort of pantry. There is a door at each end of this hall, through which the smoke escapes, when it is necessary to boil the pot; at no other time is there occasion for fire. When I entered, I saw a negro woman squatting on the floor, attending the cookery of her husband's dinner, which was simmering in an iron pot, and consisted of oxtail and cocos, pickled crabs, and salt fish, with a bit of salt pork. The lady was peeling a few plantains to roast, and the lord of the mansion was inhaling the fumes of tobacco from a short junko pipe, as he lolled at his ease in his hammock, suspended from one of the rafters to within two feet of the floor. There was a substantial deal table in the hall, with four rush-bottomed chairs and a wooden bench, over which hung a bunch of corn and a machet, or cutlass; above these was a shelf, with a range of white plates and a few glasses, and above these hung several pieces of salt fish, and a good bunch of plantains. There was a basket of yams near the table, as if just brought in, and on it a cocoa-nut shell with a handle, to ladle water or soup. Several tin pans hung from one of the beams, and among them a large net full of cocas. There

an oil jar in one corner to hold water, and a hoe and ill hook in another, beside a large gourd, with a hole in it, which serves as a musical instrument, and is called a drum. There was likewise a gombay, and a bonja, which is much like a guitar, and several calabashes were ranged along the beams, containing sugar and coffee. I must not forget to mention three young children, fat and sleek as moles, that were playing about the house and garden, which contained plantain suckers, an alligator pear tree, mangos, two or three coco-nut trees, orange trees, a few coffee bushes, and many other fruits and vegetables, and a pine apple fence separated from the adjoining garden. There was a pigsty in one corner, occupied by a sow and her family. This is a portrait of one of the inferior cottages, some of the best having piazzas, with terraced floors. Every garden has a pigsty, and the poultry roost at a little distance from the house."

Another recent visitor of the West Indies writes thus:—

"I would not sell my birthright for a mess of pottage, yet if my birthright were taken from me, I would fain have the pottage left. So I scorn with an English scorn, the Creole thought, that the West Indian slaves are better off than the poor peasantry of Britain; they are not better off—nothing like it; an English labourer with one shirt is worth, body and soul, ten negro slaves, choose them where you will. But it is, nevertheless, a certain truth, that the slaves in general do labour much less, do eat and drink much more, have much more ready money, dress much more gaily, and are treated with much more kindness and attention, when than nine-tenths of all the people of Great Britain, under the condition of tradesmen, farmers, and domestic servants. It does not enter into my head to speak of these things as constituting an equivalent, much less a point of superiority, to the hardest shape of English freedom; but it seems to me, that, where English freedom is not, and cannot be, these things may amount to a very consolatory substitute for it. I suspect that if it were generally known, that the slaves we, drank, and slept well, and were beyond all comparison a gayer, smarter, and more familiar race, than the poor of this kingdom, the circumstances of their labour being compulsory, and, in some measure, of their receiving no wages for it, would not very painfully affect the sympathies of the ladies and gentlemen of the African Institution and the Anti-Slavery Society. I say, in some measure, the slaves receive no wages, because no money is paid to them on that score, but they possess advantages which the ordinary wages of labour in England doubled could not purchase. The slaves are so well aware of the comforts which they enjoy under a

master's surveillance, that they not unfrequently forgo freedom rather than be deprived of them."

## PUBLIC MEETINGS.

It is seldom the case, that foreigners who travel, or reside but a short time in Great Britain, arrive at a just comprehension of the intricate, ill-defined, conventional arrangements of society in this country; and, in perusing the explanations which they offer in their published works on many of our institutions, we at once perceive and pity the errors into which, in nearly all cases, they can hardly prevent themselves from falling. The only foreigner in recent times, who seems to have spoken accurately on our civil arrangements, was the late Baron de Staél, son of the Baroness of that title. This young gentleman's "Letters on England" is one of the most interesting works of the kind ever written; and to shew the style and conception of the author, the following candid article on Public Meetings may be presented:—

"A man of wit said,—'The language of despotism is, Mind your own concerns,—that of liberty is, Attend to things that don't concern you.' In this pithy form he announced a grand truth. In a free country nothing that affects any class of citizens can be foreign to the rest of the community. There is not an Englishman, however humble the rank in which he was born, who is not justly entitled to think that his opinion is of some weight in the affairs of his country; and, reciprocally, there is no individual so exalted, as, for his daily conduct, to be exempt from the examination and judgment of the public.

"With us, on the Continent, publicity is considered as an extreme resource, to which we have recourse only in desperate cases, and after having exhausted all other means of attaining our object. If persons engage in an undertaking of public or private concern, they always find their hopes of success on the disposition of men in power; business is conducted in the closet of the minister, or in the drawing-room of some man of weight. While there is any chance of succeeding through favour, it would appear rude or indiscreet to speak out, and call on the public to judge of our griefs or projects. In England publicity is a matter of common right; men address themselves to the opinion of the public at once; this is the first power, the support of which they solicit; and even men desirous of treating with government would begin by seeking popularity, well knowing it would be for the interest of their ambition.

"Is an abuse to be reformed,—an improvement to be introduced—a right to be claimed—a new institution to be founded?—whether it concern religion, morality, liberty, or the public wealth, the first indispensable step is to enlighten public opinion on the point in question. The attempt to fix the public attention is begun by writing pamphlets or paragraphs in the newspapers. Then a few people of note form a committee, and prepare a string of resolutions, which are submitted to general discussion. When agreed so far, a meeting is called, either in the open air, or in one of the large rooms adapted to the purpose, which are to be found in almost every large town in England. A chairman, called on by the public voice, presides over the meeting; and the resolutions are discussed, and put to the vote; and, amid the most stormy debates, a certain familiarity with the forms of deliberation, common to all classes of the people, maintains order, and protects the rights of the minority.

"Frequently, at these meetings, orators before unknown, appear in public for the first time, and display talents, that perhaps pave the way for their future admission to the senate. The next day their speeches are printed in all the newspapers, and resound throughout all England. The first meeting gives rise to others, men's minds are enlightened and warmed, and the public opinion acquires a degree of force, any resistance to which would be useless.

"It is not without reason, therefore, that the English set so high a value on the right to assemble for the discussion of public affairs, and place it in the first rank of their constitutional prerogatives. The right of petitioning, as they conceive it, is nothing but the right of meeting to deliberate on the requests or complaints expressed in the petition; for the Houses of Parliament are not expected to decide, like judges, on every requisition addressed to it. Particular cognizance is taken of a petition, only when it is made the subject of a motion by some one of the members. The right of introducing a subject is not given indiscriminately to the public at large, which would be a confusion of power leading to anarchy. But what is justly required is, that the public opinion should enjoy the utmost latitude in forming and expressing itself.

"In a country where every thing is treated publicly,—where every thing is subjected to discussion, from the most important questions of legislation, to the slightest of local affairs,—the talent of speaking must naturally be an object of universal ambition. At school, and even in their play, children exercise themselves in this species of eloquence. At Eton and Westminster, they frequently form a little House of Commons, subjected to regulations similar to those of the Parliament. When at the university, the young men unite in debating societies, where questions of history, philosophy, legislation, and political economy, are discussed in form. At these, are frequently developed the germs of the greatest talents; and an orator, whose eloquence will some day be the pride of England, may have felt the first spark of his genius elicited by the applauses of his fellow-students.

"The debating societies, however, are merely supplementary, and not essential parts of the system; but all the institutions that constitute the basis of the social order,—as juries, managing committees, municipal councils, parochial and county meetings, and elections, presume habits of speaking, and a knowledge of the forms of deliberation. We scarcely find a man, that has received any education, who does not know how to preside at a meeting, direct its debates, and put questions to the vote in due order. There are indispensable

notions in respect to this, which are so familiar to the people of England, that no one would think of making them an object of study; while with us, they who have grown old in our deliberative assemblies still remain ignorant of them.

"Written speeches, prohibited in Parliament by its rules, are equally so by custom in every other assembly. To speak in public, and to speak extempore, are synonymous terms; and the idea of carrying, ready drawn up in the pocket, the expression of sentiments that might arise from circumstances yet to come, or of an opinion that ought to be formed from a discussion not yet begun, would appear the extreme of ridiculousness. No one supposes a person can find it difficult to relate what he knows, or say what he thinks; whoever expresses himself with simplicity and modesty, obtains a favourable hearing, and the severity or the indulgence of the public is apportioned with remarkable justice to what it has a right to expect from the talents or condition of the individual.

"Public dinners are one of the most common occasions of the exercise of oratory. The object of these dinners is to keep up the spirit of an association, or to encourage the study of some science, by bringing together persons who otherwise would have no opportunity of freely communicating to each other their ideas; or to keep alive political opinions, by celebrating the anniversary of an important event, the birth of a great man, or the election of a member of the House of Commons dear to his country. Nothing is more original than these political dinners. Many times I have seen nearly three hundred persons seated at the same table, and electrified by the same sentiment, without the vivacity of their emotions preventing them from observing with the most methodical regularity all the usages established on such occasions.

"A chairman is seated at the head of the table. No meeting takes place without this formality, which seems indispensable for securing order and regularity in every kind of discussion. The English of all classes have a remarkable tact in this respect; and if a speaker deviates ever so little from the established rules of decorum, a cry of 'Chair! chair!' resounds on all sides. This is a kind of appeal to the abstract idea of a president, informing him who executes the functions of one, that he is expected to maintain order, or restore the due state of the question. At the other end of the table sits the *deputy-chairman*, whose business is to preside when the chairman himself is called upon to take part in the debate, for there are two invariable axioms,—one, that the meeting must never be without a head; the other, that the person who is officiating as president cannot act as a party in the debate at the same time.

"At the dessert, when the cloth is removed, according to the custom yet pretty general in England, a master of the ceremonies, standing behind the president's chair, with a glass in his hand, informs the company that the toasts are going to commence. It is usual to begin with the King—then the Duke of York and the army—then the Duke of Clarence and the navy—either with plaudits or in silence, according to the occasion or sentiments of the meeting. Then come the toasts appropriate to the occasion of the meeting, as the health of the member whose election is celebrated. "Gentlemen, fill your glasses," cries the master of the ceremonies; after which he gives three times three huzzas. These are repeated in a low voice by all the company; and it is only at the ninth that the enthusiasm, even if it be at its height, allows itself to break out in shouts and plaudits. He whose health has been drunk then rises, stands up on his chair, or on the table itself, amid the plates and glasses, and there, after having returned thanks to the assembly with an expression of humility sometimes much greater than is necessary, gives an account of his conduct, traces the history of his political life, or repeats, in a gayer and more striking form, the opinions he has delivered in Parliament.

"At meetings of this kind have been delivered some of the most memorable speeches of Brougham, Mackintosh, and Caning. The eloquence of a man in public life then becomes the property of those who hear him—they adopt it—they imbue themselves with his ideas—he is no longer an imaginary being to them—he is their comrade, their guest—they have heard the sound of his voice, and observed the expression of his countenance. One orator succeeds another—fresh toasts are drunk with three times three—and speech follows speech till late at night, without the crowd of guests appearing tired of them, even though they have gradually descended, step by step, to orators of very ordinary abilities—so many charms has a public life for the citizens of a free country."

Such are the judicious and accurately formed opinions of this ingenious and lamented young foreigner, whose work has been rather overlooked, and which I can safely recommend to the perusal of my readers.

## EMIGRATION.

"Farav 14th," continues Mr. Fergusson, "my landlord at Guelph, having agreed to drive me in his wagon to Mr. Dickson's, at Galt, a gentleman who purchased from government a whole township, and to whom I had particular introductions, we started about 11 o'clock, and reached our destination about four. The road was certainly superior to what I had travelled yesterday, though mud holes were occasionally to be met with. Limestone was to be seen on every hand in great abundance, and I observed at one place a kiln hewn out and erected in the very stratum itself. Wherever a clearing occurred the wheat looked beautiful. We passed through the township of Waterloo, settled mostly by Dutch. The soil appeared to be a good, useful, sandy loam, well watered by streams and springs. I was delighted with the cultivation, especially upon the farms of Schneider and Warren. Each farm might be from 200 to 300 acres, laid out into regular fields, and not a stump to be seen. The ploughing was capital, the crops most luxuriant, and the cattle, horses, &c., of a superior stamp, with handsome houses, barns

&c., and orchards promising a rich return. Waterloo satisfied me, above all that I had yet seen, of the capability of Canada to become a fruitful and fine country.

The forest around consists of heavy timber, and the township does not enjoy the advantage of a direct water-carriage; yet have these Dutchmen, within a period of 20 years, produced farms which, in general aspect, very nearly resemble well cultivated land in Britain. The farmers are primitive and simple-minded, attending to little beyond their own affairs, and so indifferent in regard to politics, that Mr. Dickson doubted much if some of them were yet aware of the death of George III. A great deal of capital flowed into this settlement during the large expenditure at Guelph by the Canada Company—the Dutchmen supplying teams, provisions, &c. My travelling companion valued some of the farms at 25 dollars, about 6s. per acre.

Chopping or clearing land ready for sowing, will cost sometimes 12 dollars, or 3s. per acre; the first return will be 15 or 20 bushels of wheat, worth at present 5s. per bushel. The usual mode of clearing timbered land is to cut down and burn all the wood of one foot diameter, and under that; the larger trees are only girdled. Clearing in this way costs about eight dollars, or 4s. per acre. When this is done, a crop of wheat can be harrowed in, to be followed by two or three years of pasture or hay, when the plough may be used, and during which time the girdled trees are either cut into fencing stuff, or burnt. No lime has been used, as yet, upon this land, and I was told of two instances where farmers had absolutely built new stables and barns, to escape from an accumulation of despised manure.

The settlement of Mr. Dickson is one of much interest, being conducted by himself, on his own resources, in the same way as that of Colonel Talbot on the banks of Lake Erie. Mr. Dickson began operations in 1815-16, by the purchase from government of this township, extending to 96,000 acres, and to which he gave the name of Dumfries. He selected a convenient spot, with good water power, to commence a town, and formed a connection with an enterprising American, who speedily established very extensive mills. Mr. Dickson built a commodious residence for himself, in a romantic situation, overhanging the river, and communicating by a bridge with the mills and town. His plan of dealing with settlers is extremely liberal, as he does not insist upon any instalment being paid down; and even in some cases advances the means of purchasing oxen, &c. In this way the poorest emigrant, if steady and industrious, must get forward.

A regular account is opened with each individual, and partial payments, either in money or produce, accepted, by Mr. Dickson, from time to time. The price of land is four dollars, or 20s. per acre. Farms have been occasionally abandoned by unsteady or impatient individuals; but some progress in clearing has always been made, and, of course, the farm has, in so far, been rendered more valuable. A very considerable extent of land has been disposed of on both sides of the river, and hundreds of acres of fine wheat may be seen contiguous to each other.

An attempt has been made last spring to convey produce down the river to the Welland Canal, by which Mr. Shade, the owner of the mills, informed me, a saving of two thirds would be effected upon the transport of flour. This voyage was performed by a son of Mr. Dickson, accompanied by Mr. Shade, and being navigation of about 100 miles, attended with some hazards, as a first attempt, it created a good deal of sensation at the time of my visit, and much satisfaction among the farmers by its success. Mr. Dickson has about 2500 souls upon his estate, and draws a very handsome income from the interest of sales. I visited the mills with Mr. Shade, who took much trouble in explaining to me the various machinery. The establishment comprises flour-mills, saw-mills, cooperage, &c., and appeared to me equally extensive and well-arranged. I have been every where struck with the havoc and destruction of the woods, and had a remarkable opportunity in this place of contrasting the value of a tree in Upper Canada, with what it would have fetched at home. An uncommonly large and beautiful pine was lying at the mill, which I could not estimate at less than 3t. in Britain. Mr. Shade, upon my putting the question, told me it had just cost him a York shilling, or *scerpence* sterling."—Agricultural Journal.

To be continued.

## ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA.

NEW EDITION.—In the course of publication in Edinburgh.

It is the distinguishing characteristic of this great national work, that it is a compilation of articles, each the production of an author of acknowledged or tried abilities, instead of being a collection of dry papers, as in most of the preceding works of a similar nature, many of which have been little else than masses of shreds cut by the scissors from the most common books, and retailing, for the hundredth time, the errors in vogue upwards of a century ago. Among the articles in the early volumes of the present work, there is one of a remarkably valuable character, on the subject of "Army," which is understood to be from the pen of JAMES BROWN, Esq., Advocate, L.L.D., author of a series of most profound and original articles on Egyptian Hieroglyphics, in the Edinburgh Review. This article is not, like many others upon the same subject, in works of this description, a mere catalogue of the force of the British army, as it happened to stand at the making up of the last parliamentary report, but an efficient and satisfactory detail of the organization, character, numbers, and style of warfare of all the national armed forces in ancient and modern times,—from the reign of Sesostri in Egypt, seventeen hundred years before our common era, till the year 1831. It is a paper, indeed, forming in itself a book, and, it may be added, one of which any writer might be proud. The following appears to be one of the most interesting passages, and relates, in brief terms, the strength of the French Republican and Imperial armies:—

"At the end of the year 1791 the French infantry con-

sisted of 105 regiments, of two battalions each, 14 battalions of light troops, and 170 battalions of national volunteers; or 394 battalions in all. By the decree of the 5th May, 1792, the number of the volunteer battalions was raised to 200, and the strength of each was increased from 226 to 300 men. The cavalry was composed of two regiments of carabiniers, consisting of four squadrons each; 24 regiments of heavy cavalry, of three squadrons each; 18 regiments of dragoons, of three squadrons each; 12 regiments of chasseurs, of four squadrons each; and 6 regiments of hussars, of three squadrons each; and in all 206 squadrons: so that the total strength of the French army, at this period, did not exceed 160,000 infantry, 35,000 cavalry, and 10,000 artillery; while 20,000 men were still wanting to bring the different regiments to their full complements. But this deficit was soon supplied by the multitude of volunteers, who flocked to the national standards, when the Duke of Brunswick invaded France at the head of the Prussian army. The Revolution, however, had not yet developed its energies; nor had the world, as yet, any suspicion of the prodigies which the system of terror, afterwards organized, was destined to achieve. In 1795, France presented the formidable aspect of a vast camp. The decrees of the 23d August and the 5th September, 1794, had hurried the whole youth to the frontiers. Nearly 1,200,000 men were in the pay of the Republic: and, after deducting those employed in accessory services, and in the navy, the number of combatants in the field cannot have amounted to less than about 700,000. The official state of the force of the French armies as at the 5th of April, 1794, presents an aggregate of 794,334 men, including garrisons, but exclusive of the army of the interior, whose head quarters were at Paris; which, allowing one-fifth for those in the depots and for the sick, would give an effective force, present under arms, of at least 650,000 men,—the most formidable which Europe had ever seen assembled in the field. Nor did the prodigies stop here. In the month of March, 1795, France had 10 armies in the field, the active force of which amounted to 449,930 combatants, besides 120,850 in garrisons, and 338,450 sick, prisoners, or detached, in all 959,190 soldiers. But the active force, or number present under arms, did not form the half of the effective, and scarcely a third of the complete military strength of France at that period; for, as 200,000 men were still wanting to bring the effective force up to the full establishment, and as the most active measures were in progress to make up the deficit, the total number of Frenchmen under arms in 1795, cannot have fallen much short of 1,100,000 men.

But this state of exertion was too violent to be of long continuance; and neither the population of the country, nor its exhausted resources, were sufficient to maintain so enormous a force in the field. Accordingly, in the succeeding years of the republic, the aggregate of the different armies seldom exceeded 480,000 effective men, and generally fell short of this number. But when Napoleon had mounted the throne, and had organized the system of conscription, he obtained an unlimited command over the whole of that part of the population capable of bearing arms; and as he acted upon the principle first recommended by Cato, of making the war support itself, he was not only able to repair the losses sustained in his various campaigns, but, on most occasions, to take the field with a predominating superiority of numbers. The establishment of the French army, in 1805, amounted to 341,412 infantry of the line, 160,130 light infantry, 77,488 cavalry, 46,489 artillery, and 5,445 engineers; making a total of 650,964 men, or a force equal to that organized by the terrorists in 1794 and 1795. But this establishment was afterwards greatly increased; and it is calculated that, at the time of the Russian campaign, there were in the depots, in the hospital, and in the field, not less than 1,200,000 men, of whom about 850,000 might be considered as effective. Hence we are enabled to account for the extraordinary phenomenon of Napoleon's appearance in Germany at the head of a new and formidable army, within a few months after the annihilation of his veteran masses amidst the steppes, snows, and frosts of Russia, and making head for more than a year afterwards against the utmost efforts of the allied powers."

**SOUTH AMERICAN PEASANTRY.**—After doubling Cape Horn, or the southern extremity of the continent of America and, touching at Valparaiso, the Guirriere, says STEWART, proceeded to Callao, the port of Lima, the capital of Peru. Of these scenes which the author met with in the ride between those two places, the following is a specimen.

"Such touches of the true grotesque as were occasionally presented I have seldom before seen. Fancy to yourself a hundred mean-looking mules and donkeys in a single drove, as shaggy and as unsymmetrical in their whole outline as the ugliest you ever saw, bundled up and encased by all manner of things to a bulk twice the bigness of themselves, and then surmounted by objects in the human shape, old and young, male and female, black and white, Spaniards and Indians, in a variety of figure and garb, to which the pencil of a Cruickshank could scarcely do justice. The load of one of these animals, scarce three feet high, was not less than ten sheep, killed and dressed for the shambles. Six were tied two and two together by the hind legs, and then thrown across the back of the donkey from the shoulder-blade to the tail; one on either side, so as to balance each other, as their trunkless heads dangled almost on the ground; upon these the rest were lashed horizontally, forming a platform of the dead over the living beast, on which various other smaller articles of poultry were fastened, while on the top of the whole, at a very honorable elevation, on a dirty cushion, sat, à la Turyue, a most villainous-looking old man, in a ragged poncho, with a slouched and greasy hat, and bare arms and legs. Beside him, on a similar Rosinante, rode his caro spouse an equally interesting object both in figure and garb, seated in the same attitude on the top of pannier after pannier, and basket upon basket, of potatoes and beans, cabbage

and onions, oranges, bananas, melons, tomatoes, &c., as a bearing to her customers specimens of the growth of a whole plantation. Entire families, in two or three instances, were seen on a single beast, seated from the neck to the tail, according to their ages, the younger children and females forward, and the men on the extremity of the back. In two instances I counted five persons thus mounted: two of whom, in one case, seemed each as well able to carry the donkey, as he the weight of either of them."

**A FAITHFUL MESSANGER.**—In the month of February of the very severe winter, 1795, as Mr. Bolstead's son, of Great Salkeld, in Cumberland, was looking after his father's sheep on Great Salkeld Common, not far from Penrith, he had the misfortune to fall and break his leg. He was then three miles from home, and no person within call, and evening very fast approaching. Under the impulse arising from the desperate circumstances of his situation, he folded up one of his gloves in his handkerchief, tied this about the neck of his dog, and ordered him home. Dogs which are trained to an attendance on flocks, are known to be under admirable subjection to the commands of their masters, and execute their orders with an intelligence scarcely to be conceived. The animal set off, and arriving at the house, scratched at the door for admittance. The parents were alarmed at his appearance, and concluding, upon taking off and unfolding the handkerchief, that some accident had undoubtedly befallen their son, they instantly set off in search of him. The dog needed no solicitation. Apparently sensible that the chief part of his duty was still to be performed, he led the way, and conducted the anxious parents directly to the spot, where their son had fallen. The young man was soon in fair way of recovery; nor was he ever afterwards more pleasantly employed than when reciting this anecdote, so illustrative of the sagacity and fidelity of his constant companion.

**WASHINGTON.**—It has been observed that Washington seldom smiled, and never laughed. This, however, is not correct. I was informed the other day, by a gentleman venerable for his age and information, that he had seen Washington nearly convulsed with laughter. One instance he mentioned with a great degree of sang-froid. At the time that our troops were encamped at Cambridge, information was received at head-quarters that the English were about leaving Boston to give them battle. All was bustle and confusion. The soldiers were strolling over the town, and the officers were ill prepared for the approaching rencounter. Some of the generals were calling for their horses, and others for their arms; and, among the rest, was General Green, at the bottom of the stairs, bawling to the barber for his wig. "Bring my wig, you rascal; bring my wig." General Lee diverted himself and the company at the expense of Green.—"Your wig is behind the looking glass, Sir." At which Green, raising his eyes, perceived by the mirror that the wig was where it should be—on his head. Washington, in a fit of laughter, threw himself on the floor, and the whole group presented rather a ludicrous spectacle.—*New York Paper*

**WINDHAM'S DISTASTE FOR MUSIC.**—Though his taste for the fine arts was peculiarly pure and discriminating, he had no relish for music; but he acknowledged that simple ballad, as Miss Alderson (afterwards Mrs. Opie) sang it, he could endure with a degree of acquiescence almost amounting to pleasure. Yet, upon another occasion, when an interesting young lady was singing the old song of "Barbara Allan," and making a considerable pause between the stanzas, I observed Windham more than half asleep. His excuse was, that it was too long, and reminded him "of one of Mr. Drake's speeches in the House who made you believe twenty times that he was going to finish, but still went on." I have heard him observe, that the four greatest men he had ever known had no pleasure in music,—Mr. Burke, Charles Fox, Dr. Johnson, and Mr. Pitt. Sir James Mackintosh has the same apathy to music. He has been frequently dragged to the Italian Opera, and more woful figure in the pit of that theatre was never seen. Richard Sharp proposed, as a thesis for the physiologic schools of Edinburgh,—What was the precise effect of music on the sensorium of Mackintosh?—*New Monthly Mag.*

**PLANTS IN BED-ROOMS.**—Persons who are fond of odorous plants and flowers, should never permit them to be placed in their bed-chamber, as many of them are so powerful as to overcome the senses entirely. Even plants that are not flower, and have no smell, yet injure the air during the night and in absence of the sun, by impregnating it with nitro-gene and carbonic acid gas; although in the daylight they rare improve the atmosphere by yielding oxygen gas.

**GOOD NATURED PASSIONATE PEOPLE.**—It is a very common expression, that such a one is very good-natured, but very passionate. The expression, indeed, is very good-natured, to allow passionate people so much quarter. But I think a passionate man deserves the least indulgence of any. It is said, it is soon over; that is, all the mischief he does quickly despatched, which I think is no recommendation of favour. I have known one of these good-natured passionate men say, in a mixed company, even to his own wife or child, such things as the most inveterate enemies of his family would not have spoken, even in imagination. It is certain that quick sensibility is inseparable from a ready understanding; but why should not that good understanding call to its aid its force on such occasions, to master that sudden inclination to anger? To contain the spirit of anger is the worthy discipline we can put ourselves to. When a man has made any progress in this way, a frivilous fellow in a passion is but as him as contemptible as a froward child. It ought to be the study of every man for his own quiet and peace. When he stands combustible and ready to flame upon every thing that he touches, life is as uneasy to himself as all about him. This is the most scandalous disuse of reason imaginable: the harmless part of him is no more than that of a bulldog—they are tame no longer than they are not offended.

*Addison.*

## COTTAGE AND WORKHOUSE GARDENS.

"It gives us much pleasure," says our gifted and industrious countryman, Mr. Loudon, in his *GARDENER'S MAGAZINE*, for February, 1832, "to observe that the great benefits which arise from adding gardens to labourers' cottages, are every year, more and more felt all over the country. We had many proofs of this in our late tour, both in England and in Scotland; and most sincerely do we wish that government would pass a law to oblige all builders of cottages inalienably to attach a certain quantity of land to each of a garden. We have already strongly recommended workhouse gardens for the aged and infirm poor; and we had the pleasure of seeing, at Coventry, (May 6, 1831,) our ideas in great part carried into effect. The three parishes which compose the town of Coventry are under one system of management, as far as it respects the poor; and an old monastery, and its extensive garden, have been turned into a lodging and working-place. The garden is cultivated entirely by the inmates, and chiefly by the old men, as the women are supplied with in-door work, and there is a schoolmaster for teaching the children to read, write, and count. It was observed to us by Mrs. Mercer, the highly-respectable matron, who has the entire management of the establishment, under the direction of a committee, that all the old men who are able to work, however little, took great pleasure in being employed in the garden; and she only regretted that there was not more ground. Mrs. Mercer is very fond of horticulture, and directs the cultivation of the garden under her care most judiciously. It was in the very best order, and without a single weed. She has a border devoted to flowers; and as it does not contain many sorts, we venture to call on our friends in her neighbourhood, Mr. Brown, Mr. Knox, and Mr. Oliver, to send her a few plants and seeds, and a few cuttings and suckers of shrubs and roses. We are persuaded, that it would be a great improvement in the management of the workhouse poor of London, and of other large towns, to have workhouses in the country, in the midst of a large garden, for their aged and infirm inmates, who might be usefully and agreeably employed in the gardens, in raising part of their own food. The idea of so many aged persons spending their last days in the workhouses is indeed deplorable, but it seems to be inseparable from the wretched state of society in this country. In the great Mary-le-bone workhouse, which has a front that, for length, and the size and number of the windows, might be compared to a Russian palace, (and, indeed, it closely resembles that of General Apraxin at Moscow,) there are constantly from eighty to a hundred and twenty old men and women, who are led or carried out, one by one, every morning, and set down on a bench under a shed, or when the weather is fine, in the sun, where they remain almost in a state of torpor, being unable to help themselves, and having no one to attend them till they are led or carried, one by one, back again, at the time appointed for their next meal. What a picture of human desolation! If, instead of being placed upon benches, with nothing to gaze at but a brick wall, these persons were led into a garden, where they could see numbers of their fellow inmates at work, breathe the fresh air, see and smell the flowers, and hear birds and other rural sounds, the miserable lot would have some little alleviation. A number of them could perhaps assist in some of the lighter garden operations; the most afraids could scare away birds, or prepare gooseberries, and bell legumes for the kitchen. This might enable them to measure their time as it passes, and would afford some kind of amusement to divert their minds from incessantly dwelling on their own forlorn and helpless situation. Is it too much to say that something would be gained for the happiness of the human kind, if all men were agreed, that, wherever there was a habitation, whether for an individual family, or for a number of persons strangers to each other, such as hospitals, workhouses, prisons, asylums, infirmaries, and even barracks, there should be a garden. In our opinion a dwelling without a garden ought not to exist. At Aylesbury, Chester, Lancaster, and some other places, we found gardens of more or less extent attached to the prisons, in which the prisoners were allowed to work, in some cases as a recreation, and in others as labourers for the governor of the prison. We found the gardens in excellent order, with abundant crops of useful vegetables, or richly ornamented with flowers; and we were informed that the prisoners were much humanized by their culture. We have no doubt that, as a means of prison education, gardens might be turned to good account by human and vain-taking governors and gaolers, and we could wish they were appended to every gaol and penitentiary."

## SCOTTISH DOOMSTERS.

The name of this officer of the High Court of Justiciary, noticed by the author of *Waverley*, was equivalent to the "bouncer of doom or sentence." In this comprehensive sense, the Judges of the Isle of Man were called Dempsters. But in Scotland the word was long restricted to the designation of an official person whose duty it was to recite the sentence after it had been pronounced by the Court and recorded by the clerk; on which occasion the Dempster legalized it by the words of form, "And this I pronounce for Doom." For a length of years, the office, as mentioned in the text, was held in *commendam* with that of the executioner; for when a tedious, but necessary, officer of justice received his appointment, he petitioned the Court of Justiciary to be received as his Dempster, which was granted, as a matter of course. The production of the executioner in open court, and in presence of the wretched criminal, had something in it execrable and disgusting to the more refined feelings of later times. But if an old tradition of the Parliament-House of Edinburgh may be trusted, it was the following circumstance which occasioned the disuse of the Dempster's office. It chanced at one time that the office of public executioner was vacant. There was occasion for some one to act as Dempster; and considering the party who generally held the office, it is not wonderful that a *locum tenens* was hard to

be found. At length one Hume, who had been sentenced to transportation for an attempt to burn his own house, was induced to consent that he would pronounce the doom on this occasion. But when brought forth to officiate, instead of repeating the doom to the criminal, Mr. Hume addressed himself to their lordships in a bitter complaint of the injustice of his own sentence. "It was in vain that he was interrupted and reminded of the purpose for which he had come hither. 'Ye want me to be your Dempster; but I am come to be none of your Dempster; I am come to summon you, Lord T—, and you, Lord E—, to answer at the bar of another world for the injustice you have done me in this!' In short, Hume had only made a pretext of complying with the proposal, in order to have an opportunity of reviling the Judges to their faces, or giving them, in the phrase of his country, 'a sloan.' He was hurried off amid the laughter of the audience; but the indecorous scene which had taken place contributed to the abolition of the office of Dempster. The sentence is now read over by the clerk of the court, and the formality of pronouncing doom altogether omitted.

ABORIGINAL CHARACTER.—As an Indian was straying through a village on the Kennebec, he passed a gentleman standing at his store door, and begged a piece of tobacco. The person stepped back, and selected a generous piece, for which he received a gruff "take you," and thought no more of the affair. Three or four months afterwards, he was surprised at an Indian coming into the store, and presenting him with a beautiful miniature birch canoe, painted, and furnished with paddles to correspond. On asking the meaning of it, he was told,—"Indian no forget; you give me tobacco—me make this for you." This man's gratitude for a trifling favour, had led him to bestow more labour on his present than would have purchased him many pounds of his present fumigatory.—*Boston Paper*.

FEEDING SHEEP IN WINTER.—The winter season being the period in which sheep occupy the turnip ground, it is essential to their comfort, at that inclement season, to study the clearing of the ground, so that, though they may be exposed to boisterous weather while eating on the break, they may have a place of shelter to flee to in case of a storm. This arrangement may not be difficult of accomplishment, when they have the choice of all the cleared ground, as they advance in the consumption of the crop. In the event of a heavy fall of snow, when the turnips will be out of their reach, (a slight fall they soon trample down,) the snow should be cast off the turnips on the cleared part of the ground. Turnips are preserved in a fresh state under snow. In individual cases, the hoofs may grow so irregularly on the soft ground as to cause lameness. It is a safe precaution to examine the hoofs of the flock at short intervals of time and pare away all excrescences. I have no doubt that, were this precaution regularly attended to, the foot-rot would not be so frequently exhibited among flocks in the low country.—*Stephens*.

JAPAN.—It is well known that the Japanese will not hold any intercourse with Europeans, whom they treat like persons infected with the plague. Indeed, it is as much as their lives are worth to approach a foreigner. They are content and happy under the present order of things, and consider a jealous avoidance of all contact with strangers as the surest means to preserve their present state. When Captain Kotzebue visited the island, on his first voyage with Krusenstern, a seven months' residence justified him in asserting, that to know the Japanese was to esteem them—so high was the degree of rational civilization to which they had attained; and this, entirely by their own resources, uninfluenced and unaided by foreign example. He admits that the insulated position in which the island is kept, may also be a consequence of the jealousy entertained by a despotic government, who may feel alarmed at the spread of ideas inimical to its durability.—*Athenaeum*.

THE TWO BLOWS.—Cardinal Mazarine was dictating one day a letter to his Secretary. The latter, overcome with incessant work, fell asleep, and the Cardinal continued dictating, while pacing up and down his study. When he had come to the conclusion, he turned towards his Secretary, saying, "End as usual." He then perceived that the first lines of the letter only were written. The Cardinal was very partial to that Secretary, and treated him as a father. To awake him, he gave him a box on the ear, the Secretary, in a fury, returned the blow. The Cardinal, without shewing the least emotion, said, coolly, "Now, Sir, as we are both wide awake, let us proceed with our letter."—*The Parrot*.

STANDARD OF THE JANISSARIES.—Odd as it may seem, a *soup-kettle* is the standard of the Janissaries, an emblem rather more appropriate for a court of aldermen. Dr. Walsh says, that he saw in the streets of Constantinople, an extraordinary, greasy-looking fellow, dressed in a leather jacket, covered over with ornaments of tin, bearing in his hand a lash of several leather thongs; he was followed by two men, also fantastically dressed, supporting pole on their shoulders, from which hung a large copper kettle. They walked through the main streets with an air of great authority, and all the people hastily got out of the way. This he found, on inquiry, was the *soup-kettle* of a corps of Janissaries, and always held in high respect; indeed, so distinguishing a characteristic of this body is their *soup*, that their colonel is called *Techorbadje*, or the distributor of soup. Their kettle, therefore, is in fact their standard; and whenever that is brought forward, it is the signal of some desperate enterprise, and in a short time, twenty thousand men have been known to rally round their old insignia of war.

DUCKS.—Water, to swim in, is necessary to the old, and injurious to the very young. They never should be suffered to swim (if water be near) till more than a month old. The old duck will lay in the year, if well kept, ten dozen of eggs; and that is her best employment; for common hens are the best mothers. It is not good to let young ducks out in the morning to eat slugs and worms; for, though they like them,

these things kill them if they eat a great quantity. Grass, corn, white cabbages, and lettuces, and especially buckwheat, cut, when half ripe, and hung down in the haulm, make fine ducks. Ducks will feed on garbage, and all sorts of filthy things; but their flesh is strong and bad in proportion. They are, in Long Island, fattened upon a coarse sort of crab, called a horsefoot fish, prodigious quantities of which are cast on the shores. The young ducks grow very fast upon this, and very fat; but two to him that has to smell them when they come from the spit; and, as for eating them, a man must have a stomach indeed to do that! When young, they should be fed upon barley-meal, or curds, and kept in a warm place in the night time, and not let out early in the morning. They should, if possible, be kept from water to swim in. It always does them harm; and, if intended to be sold to be killed young, they should never go near ponds, ditches, or streams.—*Coblett's Cottage Economy*.

EAST INDIA CUSTOMS.—In India, we have no stage coaches, (thank me for the information,) we must travel on horseback in the morning and evening, and I can give you no conception of the mobs of cattle and men which follow a British officer. At Holapore and Barada, I had one head servant, one second, or valet, one gorawalla, or groom, one grass-cutter, one washerman, six baggage carriers, two camels, four ponies, and one charger, besides the orderlies or soldiers allowed by government, and the Palankeen bearers (Doliwallas), who, when not employed to carry the sick, are at the service of the surgeon. At Barada, I had, moreover, one beal, or, in common language, a thief or robber. This interesting gentleman is paid ten rupees a month, and his duty is to engage that none of his caste shall plunder your tent. He is armed with a sword and shield; but that is a farce, because your property is sacred if he snored all night, or was even absent. If you refuse to pay this *black mail*, you will assuredly be robbed. The *meum tuum* has never been a consideration with this class of men, whose profession is to plunder. They are polished in their manners, and are intelligent; and if you fall among them, will treat you with hospitality. I slept a whole night in one of their villages without knowing it. I had nothing but guide and my horse, for I had sent my baggage and servants forward to the next halt. I was in an open *durum sole*, or *shed* for travellers. In the morning, they brought me milk and fruit, fed my horse, made their salam, and told me they were *beals*! I could scarcely obtain a glass of water in England without paying for it; blushing, ye civilized men! The *beals* refused whatever I offered them! There is no accounting for the vagaries of the human mind; these gentlemen robbers will sometimes commit the most atrocious crimes with perfect indifference. They would not kill a cow for the world, but they will stab you to the heart without remorse.—*Letters, from India*.

PECULIARITIES OF THE PRESS.—The stereotyped phraseology of the press is to us a standing joke—a perpetual and never-to-be-exhausted spring of "rational entertainment." Is there an unusual shower of rain in any village within five hundred miles of London?—of course, its like was not known "in the memory of the oldest inhabitant." Does it happen to take place in town instead of the country?—of course, "the metropolis was visited by one of the most awful," &c. Is there a chimney on fire?—of course, "the devouring element" blazes through a long paragraph. Is a straw-bonnet maker's apprentice robbed of her reticule, or exposed to the indignity of having her veil gently thrown back, displaying her beauties to the gaze of the vulgar?—of course, "the deed was perpetrated" either by a "witch," or a "monster in the human form." Is somebody acquitted by the Lord Mayor upon a charge of swindling?—of course, he is a person of very "interesting appearance." Is somebody convicted upon a similar charge?—of course, he is a "suspicious-looking character." Does a gentleman fail to recover, at the hands of a magistrate, a wife who has run away from him fifteen times?—of course, "his feelings may be more easily conceived than described." Do five fools, aged fifty-one years each, happen to meet together at any time on this side of the antipodes?—of course, it is discovered that "their united ages amount to two hundred and fifty-five years." Are people married now-a-days?—no, they are always lead to the "hymeneal altar." Are they hanged?—by no means; they are "launched into eternity." Do rich landowners give their famished tenantry a dinner at Christmas?—it is hailed as a noble specimen of "genuine English hospitality."—*Monthly Magazine*.

OBSEVERVANCE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES.—There is not a single branch of science which does not require some labour and attention; there is not even a mechanical act to which some apprenticeship is not necessary. No naturalist would visit the Alps, with a view to examine the structure of the globe, unless he had devoted some time and study to every object which could mature his judgment, and give validity to his opinions. Yet persons who have passed their lives with books, who have seen human nature in print, or who have not seen it all, go to distant nations, and describe, as universal truths, what they perceive there, under impressions arising from inexperience and astonishment. The usual feeling upon first visiting a foreign country is surprise, the natural attendant upon novelty; and the sentiment is shared not only by the vulgar, but by the enlightened. It is accompanied by pain or pleasure, as the objects seen are in discord or in harmony with the disposition of the observer; but in either case it is generally exaggerated. Every day diminishes the impression; till, at length, the customs which astonished inexperience, are looked upon as little wonder as those which were left at home. But no condition of mind is more hostile to calm observation than a state of emotion, which magnifies and disfigures truth. On the other hand, again, when habit, which has the power of destroying sensibility to peculiar customs, has diminished the perception of things worthy of attention, much which, when new, excited astonishment, no longer attracts observation.—*Chenevix Trench's National Character*.

**POWERS OF THE FRENCH PRESS.**—From the date of the introduction of the art of printing into France, up to the year 1814, the press of that kingdom had attained the power of producing 42,675,039 sheets annually: such was the immense production to which this glorious invention gradually rose in about three centuries and a half! And yet, between 1814 and 1826, which is scarcely more than a thirtieth part of the former interval, the increase had become above two-fold; for, in those twelve years, no fewer than 90,866,055 sheets were, on the average, annually printed.

**THE POET CRABBE.**—The late Rev. George Crabbe died in the 88th year of his age. He was a native of Aldeburgh, where his father held a situation in the Customs. Bred up to the profession of physic, he for some time practised as a surgeon in his native town, but, disliking his profession, he quitted Aldeburgh, and repaired to the metropolis, where he arrived without having formed any particular plan, but where he hoped that the exertion of his talents might enable him to succeed. Whilst in London he obtained an introduction to the Right Hon. Edmund Burke, who, struck with the talents he displayed, introduced him to some of the first characters of the age, and among others to the late Duke of Rutland, Lord Thurlow, Dr. Johnson, and Sir Joshua Reynolds. Owing to the substantial favour of the former nobleman, he was induced to take orders in 1781. In 1789, after the death of his noble patron, he was presented by Lord Thurlow, on the recommendation of the Duchess Dowager, to the rectories of Muston, in Leicestershire, and of West Allington, in Lincolnshire. In 1814, on the presentation of the present Duke of Rutland, he was instituted to the valuable rectory of Trowbridge. During his first acquaintance with Mr. Burke, and under his immediate auspices, he published his poem, "The Village." After an interval of twenty-two years, he again appeared before the public as the author of the "Parish Register." In 1810, he published "The Borough;" in 1812, "Tales in Verse;" in 1819, "Tales of the Hall,"—works of which the highest excellence is their truth to nature, but nature in her homely garb. In private life Mr. Crabbe was modest, retired and unassuming; feelingly alive to the miseries of his fellow-creatures, he devoted no small portion of his time to their alleviation; and in doing this, united to his ministerial his medical character, and thus rendered himself beloved and useful in a twofold capacity. Mr. Crabbe was married in 1783 to Miss Elmy, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of the late —— Tovell, Esq., of Parham, by whom he has left children.

**PRESENCE OF MIND.**—During Lord Exmouth's attack on the batteries of Algiers, in 1816, the Algerines used a great number of red-hot shot, particularly in the early part of the action. On board his Majesty's bomb *Infernial*, one of these comfortable articles came in, through Wallis the purser's cabin, in the after cock-pit, and having bundled a shelf full of books on the top of the assistant surgeon, Jones, who was lying in the purser's cot, given over with the Gibraltar fever, it rolled across into the opposite cabin, and was there got into a bucket of water, by the gunner and some others stationed near the spot. This interesting amusement was but just concluded, when the men in the magazine, the door to which was close by, heard a desperate smash among the powder barrels, and were almost covered with a cloud of loose dust and powder, which was thrown all over them. Knowing the business which employed the gunner in the cock-pit, but just the moment before, they naturally enough, in the confusion of the moment, called out to him, "A red-hot shot in the magazine!" and were rushing out of it to circulate wider the same cry, should their new red-hot acquaintance permit them. The ill consequences of this may be easily conceived; the only chance for any one on such an occasion being to jump at once overboard. The gunner in an instant saw that if the cry was false it was folly to spread it, and, it true, it was useless. He flew to the magazine, shoved the fellows back into it, and turned the key on them, and stood there, with his hand on the lock, till he knew all danger must be past; rather a queerish situation, gentle reader! The chaps were afterwards a little laughed at; for, strange to say, we could not find this intruder on their equanimity of temper any where: and many doubted at last if any shot had come into it at all. To be sure there were the broken barrels and the spilled powder in favour of the narrators of the story; but this seemed still not fully to convince; for even the worst of dangers generally get laughed at when they are over, by our happy-go-lucky sons of Neptune. When, however, she came to return her powder into store, after arriving in the Thames, the mystery was solved; it was then found that the said shot had gone through four barrels of powder, and lodged itself very comfortably in the middle of a fifth. The gunner's name was Coombs; and the last time I saw this man, who had shown such an unexampled presence of mind, was in 1824; he was then mending shoes in a solitary room in the back lanes of Deptford, to help out a precarious existence:—"Sic transit gloria mundi!"—*United Service Journal.*

**SPORTS OF INSECTS.**—It is not generally known, that some of the smallest insects are discovered to enjoy themselves in sports and amusements, after their ordinary toils, or satiating themselves with food, just as regularly as is the case with many human beings. They run races, wrestle with each other, and, out of fun, carry each other on their backs much in the same manner as boys. These pleasing characteristics of insects, are particularly observable among ants, which are remarkable for their sagacity. Bonnet, a French author, says, he observed a small species of ant, which, in the intervals of their industry, employed themselves in carrying each other on their backs, the rider holding with his mandibles the neck of his bearer, and embracing it closely with his legs. Gould, another writer on ants, mentions that he has often witnessed these exercises, and says, that in all cases, after being carried a certain length, the ant was let go in a friendly manner, and received no personal injury. This amusement is often repeated, particularly among the hill ants, who are very fond of this sportive exercise. It was amongst the same species that

Ifub observed similar proceedings, which he has described with his usual minuteness. "I approached," he says, "one day, to the formicary of wood ants, exposed to the sun, and sheltered from the north. The ants were heaped upon one another in great numbers; and appeared to enjoy the temperature on the surface of the nest. None of them were at work; and the immense multitude of insects presented the appearance of a liquid in the state of ebullition, upon which the eye could scarcely be fixed without difficulty; but when I examined the conduct of each ant, I saw them approach one another, moving their antennae with astonishing rapidity, while they patted, with a slight movement, the cheeks of other ants. After these preliminary gestures, which resembled caressing, they were observed to raise themselves upright on their hind legs by pairs, struggle together, seize each other by a mandible, foot, or antennae, and then immediately relax their hold to recommence the attack. They fastened upon each other's shoulders, or bellies, embraced and overthrew each other, then raised themselves by turns, taking their revenge without producing any serious mischief. They did not spout out their venom as in their combats, nor retain their opponents with that obstinacy which we observe in their real quarrels. They presently abandoned those which they had first seized, and endeavoured to catch others. I have seen some who were so eager in these exercises, that they pursued several workers in succession, and struggled with them for a few moments, the skirmish only terminating when the least animated, having overthrown his antagonist, succeeded in escaping and hiding in one of the galleries. In one place, two ants appeared to be gambling about a stalk of grass,—turning alternately, to avoid or seize each other, which brought to my recollection the sport and pastime of young dogs when they rise on their hind legs, attempting to bite, overthrow, and seize each other, without once closing their teeth. To witness these facts, it is necessary to approach the ant hills with much caution, that the ants should have no idea of your presence; if they had, they would cease at the moment their plays or their occupations, would put themselves in a posture of defence, curve up their tails, and eject their venom."

**ANECDOTE.**—The following anecdote is extracted from a Belgian Journal:—"An individual at Antwerp lately gave a supper to forty poor hunchbacks! He awarded a premium of sixty florins to him whose hunch was the most prominent, and who was also proclaimed king of the feast. Carriages were sent to bring the guests from their residences, and to take them back again when the festivities were concluded. They enjoyed the dance till a late hour in the night, and returned home highly gratified with the kindness and generosity of their landlord."

**LADY STAIR'S FAME.**—Graham of Claverhouse, (commonly pronounced Clavers,) was appointed sheriff of Wigtonshire in 1682. On one occasion, when this violent persecutor had been inveighing in Lady Stair's presence against our illustrious reformer, she said, "Why are you so severe on the character of John Knox? You are both reformers; he gained his point by *clavers*; you attempt to gain yours by *knocks*!"

**ENGLISH SINBAD.**—Purchas's Pilgrims comprehends "The admirable and strange adventures of Master Anthony Knyvet who went with Master Cavendish in his second voyage," which for marvels, if not for invention and imagination, may rival the adventures of Sinbad the Sailor. Knyvet wandered from the ship on the coast of Brazil, and was for many years among the "Cannibals." Many is the wonderful escape from death which he makes. In Magellan's Straits, pulling off his stockings one night, all his toes came with them; but this is not so bad as the fortune of one Harris, who, blowing his nose with his fingers, throws it into the fire, and never recovers it again, as Knyvet seems to have done his toes, by the good offices of a surgeon whom Cavendish employed, and who cured with muttering words. In the Straits he saw both giants and pygmies. The foot-marks of the giants at Port Desire were four times the length of an Englishman's foot. In the Straits, their stature was fifteen and sixteen spans long; and, at Port Famine, or San Felipe, the desolate station of the Spanish colony, four or five thousand pygmies, with mouths reaching from ear to ear, were seen at one time whose height was from four to five spans. Some of Knyvet's marvels relate to the singular subject of demoniac possession and satanic influence among the tribes with whom he sojourned. These accounts, and others of the elder voyagers, are not materially different from those which we receive of the South Sea Islanders at the present time, and which, we are assured by Ellis, some of the early missionaries were disposed to believe. On his return to England, Master Knyvet told Purchas, that he once heard an Indian conferring with the spirit which possessed him, and threatening that, if it did not use him better, he would turn Christian; the spirit too' the hint and left him.—*Edinburgh Cabinet Library.*

**USEFUL FAMILY RECEIPT.**—To destroy moths, or drive them from cloth, hairy tippets, muffs, &c., the seed of the hibiscus abelmoschus (the vegetable musk seed) should be thinly distributed over the articles, and between the folds of cloth. These seeds are highly esteemed by the French perfumers, for their peculiar delicate fragrance. To destroy the vitality of the eggs, which produce the moths, deposited in woollen cloth, hairy tippets, muffs, &c., a weak solution of the oxy-muriate of mercury in the spirit of rosemary, (about half a dram to a pint,) or weak solution of the arseniate of potash in the same spirit (about 15 grains to a pint) is employed by those who prepare the skins of birds and animals for stuffing.

**THE BANK OF NORWAY.**—There is no establishment of this kind in Europe which is better organized than the National Bank of Norway. It is divided into three departments, comprising the *Loan* Bank, the *Cashier's* Department, and the *Deposit and Pledge* Bank. It was instituted in the year 1816, and opened with a capital of two millions of species dollars in coin, (about 400,000*l.*) which were subscribed by the affluent classes throughout the kingdom. The Central Bank is kept at Trondheim, (commonly spelt *Drontheim*.) and branch banks are established in other principal places. Its affairs are conducted by a board of directors who are

dominated by the Storting or Norwegian Diet. The current coins of the country consist of silver pieces of the value of one species dollar, (circa 4*l.*) half a species dollar, and a fifth part of a species dollar; besides eight shilling pieces, and other smaller silver currency, all of which have been struck at the rate of nine and a half species dollars to the mark of fine silver. Norway, likewise, possesses a paper currency, which consists of bank notes of 100, 50, 10, 5, and even 1 species dollar each; and an excellent index to their respective values has been devised, for the purpose of obviating mistakes; they are severally printed on red, green, yellow, blue, and white paper. Had this precedent been adopted in England, the crime of changing notes, from a lower to a higher value, would have been happily unknown to our courts of law. Some idea may be formed of the degree of credit which the National Bank enjoys in Norway, from the single fact that, in the year 1830 no larger a sum than 3040 dollars (500*l.*) was required for paying its notes in silver! The proprietary received, in that year, a dividend of seven per cent.

**SPANISH CHARACTER.**—In the Spanish Colonies, or in places occupied by the descendants of Spaniards, the treatment of servants of every kind is milder than in most other parts of the world. We must look for an explanation of this fact in the genuine goodness of the Spanish character, which, though overlaid and crushed down by a series of political and moral degradations, is still essentially excellent, and worthy of a far better destiny.—*Captain Basil Hall's Voyage.*

**LIST OR MEDICINES FOR DISTEMPER IN DOGS.**—Some rely entirely on purgatives; others bleeding and physicking; others on emetics, some put tar upon the nose, others a pitch plaster, and some cauterize the navel; some inject vinegar into the nose, others hellebore, and others a solution of camphor; some cut off the tail, others the ears; some give tobacco and olive oil, others the golden sulphure of antimony, the keeper gives the *cupreth*'s mineral; the more scientific of these gentry will knock down the disease, and the dog too, with arsenic. The gentleman will give compound tincture of benjamin, the farmer common salt; the medical man sulphuric ether, or emetics and sulphur, or emetics and jalap, or emetics and scammony.—*From a very able Lecture of Mr. Youatt on Distempers.*

**PUBLIC LANDS, UNITED STATES.**—The public, or, as we should call them, the crown lands, of the United States of America, consist almost wholly of territory wrested from the Indians; for seven-eights of it come under this description. Up to the year 1826, the quantity of land purchased was officially reported as amounting to 261,695,427 acres, of which 7,707,085 had been appropriated to the endowment of schools and colleges, and 40,396,382 had been sold for a sum of 10,088,720*l.* sterling; or at the rate of a minute fraction less than five shillings average per acre. The number of acres acquired from the Indians in the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Missouri, the Michigan and Arkansas territories, and included in the foregoing statement, was 209,219,865.—*Athenaeum.*

**GODS OF WAR.**—The three colossal cannon which the French captured from the Prussians in the year 1806, have been brought to Paris from Metz. They are three of twelve of the same dimensions, which were called "the Apostles," and were cast in Brandenburg in 1665. Independently of the Brandenburg arms, they bear the effigy of the Elector on foot, and in complete armour. They are to be placed in charge of the *Invalides*, in conjunction with the famous cannon, "Ehrenbreitstein," which was cast at Treves in 1529; its calibre is one hundred and fifty-four pounds, and it bears the following inscription:—"My name is Grasp (grief,) and if my lord of Treves give the word, I'm ready to crumble towers and walls to powder."

**THE SUBTLE JACK.**—The wood-cutters and hunters in their out-door and sylvan life became familiar with all the living creatures of these prolific regions, and gave them English names, significant of their habits. They adopted the superstition of the Spaniards against killing the carious crows which were found so useful in clearing the country of the putrid carcasses of animals. Trains of these birds gathered them into all quarters about the hunters, and regularly followed them into the savannahs for their own share of the prey. A bird which they named the *Subtle Jack* was about as big as the pigeons of the Bay of Campeachy. It suspended its nest from the boughs of lofty trees, choosing such as up to a considerable height, were without limbs. The branches selected were those that spread widest; and of these the very extremity was chosen. The nests hung down two or three feet from the twigs, to which they were fastened, and looked like "cabbage-nets stuffed with hay." The thread by which it is suspended, like the nest itself, is made of long grass, ingeniously twisted and interwoven, small at the twig but thickening as it approaches the nest. On trees that grow singly and apart, the birds build all round; but when the trees stand in proximity to others, the *Subtle Jack* chooses only those that border upon a savannah, pool, or creek; and of these the limbs that stretch over the water or the grass, avoiding such as may be easily approached from neighbouring trees. The nest has a hole at the side for the bird to enter.—" 'Tis pretty," says Dampier, "to see twenty or thirty of them hanging round a tree."—*Edinburgh Cabinet Library.*

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